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United Nations

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-sixth session (14 August-8 September 2006)

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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Chapter I

Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) at United Nations Headquarters on 21 June 2006 and its substantive session from 14 August to 8 September 2006. It held a total of 19 meetings and a number of informal consultations.

A. Agenda

2. The agenda for the forty-sixth session, adopted by the Committee at its organizational session (1st meeting), is contained in annex I to the present report.

Selection of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

3. At the 1st meeting, on 21 June, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit contained in document E/AC.51/2006/L.2. The Committee decided to consider the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Further measures to strengthen United Nations system support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development" (A/61/69) and the comments thereon by the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (A/61/69/Add.1).

4. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/233, paragraph 4, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, and invited the executive heads of organizations participating in the Unit, to take the necessary measures to ensure that the thematic reports of the Unit were listed under the appropriate substantive agenda items of the work programmes of the Assembly, other pertinent organs and bodies of the United Nations and the appropriate legislative organs of the other participating organizations, the Committee decided to consider the report under agenda item 4, Coordination questions, sub-item (b), New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Programme of work

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 14 August, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation (E/AC.51/2006/L.1/Rev.1), listing the documents for consideration by the Committee.

6. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Committee had before it an informal paper setting out a tentative and provisional programme of work for its forty-sixth session. The Committee approved its programme of work for the first two days, namely 14 and 15 August. For the remainder of the session, the Committee continued its work based on its tentative programme of work.

B. Election of officers

7. At its 1st meeting, on 21 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Norma Elaine Taylor Roberts (Jamaica) Chairman of the Committee for the forty-sixth session.

8. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following members of the Bureau for the forty-sixth session: Vice-Chairman: Harold Agyeman (Ghana); and Rapporteur: Igor V. Fisenko (Belarus).

9. On 8 August, in a note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, the secretariat of the Committee for Programme and Coordination was informed that, owing to unexpected circumstances, the elected Rapporteur of the forty-sixth session would be unable to attend the session. Consequently, the members of the Group of Eastern European States were invited to nominate a candidate.

10. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Ron Adam (Israel) and Ahmed Farooq (Pakistan) Vice-Chairmen and Valery Zhdanovich (Belarus) Rapporteur of the Committee for the forty-sixth session.

11. The Members of the Bureau for the forty-sixth session of the Committee are:

Chairman:
Norma Elaine Taylor Roberts (Jamaica)

Vice-Chairmen:
Harold Agyeman (Ghana)
Ron Adam (Israel)
Ahmed Farooq (Pakistan)

Rapporteur:
Valery Zhdanovich (Belarus)

C. Attendance

12. The following States Members were represented on the Committee:

Algeria
Argentina
Armenia
Bahamas
Belarus
Benin
Brazil
Bulgaria
Central African Republic
China
Comoros
Cuba
France
Ghana
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Kenya
Mexico
Pakistan
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Senegal
South Africa
Switzerland
United States of America
Uruguay
Zimbabwe

13. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Angola	Jordan
Austria	Malaysia
Colombia	Nigeria
Czech Republic	Saudi Arabia
Ecuador	Slovakia
Egypt	Syrian Arab Republic
Finland	Ukraine
Germany	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Guyana	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Iraq	

14. The following regional commissions, funds and programmes were represented:

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Regional Commissions, New York Office

United Nations Population Fund

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

15. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management; the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs; the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa; the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; the Controller; the Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs; the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; the Deputy Executive Director for the United Nations Environment Programme; the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Director of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination; and senior officials of the Secretariat.

16. The following programmes and/or parts of programmes of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 were discussed by videoconference:

programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space; programme 10, Trade and development; programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice; programme 19, Human rights; programme 24, Management and support services; and programme 26, Jointly financed activities.

D. Documentation

17. The list of documents before the Committee at its forty-sixth session is set out in annex II to the present report.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

18. At the 19th meeting, on 8 September 2006, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee (E/AC.51/2006/L.4 and Add.1-37).

19. Before the adoption of the report, the representatives of the United States of America, Japan, Israel and Cuba made statements. The representatives of the United States of America and Japan disassociated themselves from the consensus.

20. The Secretary of the Committee provided clarifications on questions raised relating to the rule of procedures and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly governing the procedures of the Committee.

21. The Committee adopted the draft report of the Committee on the work of its forty-sixth session (E/AC.51/2006/L.4 and Add.1-37).

22. After the adoption of the draft report, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Uruguay, Italy, Kenya, Indonesia, France, the Central African Republic, the Bahamas, India, Argentina, Portugal, China, Jamaica, Algeria, the Russian Federation, Cuba, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Syrian Arab Republic.

II. Programme questions

A. Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005

23. At its 6th meeting, on 16 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/61/64).

24. The representative of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) introduced the programme performance report and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

25. Delegations commended OIOS for improving the programme performance report and for responding positively to requests by the General Assembly and the Committee for Programme and Coordination to improve performance reporting and

advance a results-based culture in the United Nations. However, regret was expressed that the use of programme performance data in decision-making seemed to be the exception rather than the rule.

26. The extensive use of hyperlinks in the electronic version of the programme performance report, as posted on the Internet, was welcomed as a means of providing easy and wide access to related documents and detailed information on programme performance and the achievements of the United Nations. The increased use of information on client satisfaction, as a way to assess the performance of the United Nations, was welcomed by the delegations.

27. Delegations reiterated the need to establish a link between financial and programmatic information so as to better assess programme performance. That linkage was of importance for the success of results-based management within the Organization. The efforts of the Secretariat in that regard should be strengthened, it was pointed out.

28. The comprehensiveness and inclusive nature of the report, which provided information on more than 33,000 outputs for 29 budget sections with breakdowns and details, was deemed useful for Member States in supporting their decision-making on priorities and funding, representatives stated. There was a need to apply a coherent methodology for measuring and reporting outputs, including those that were not easily quantifiable. The reporting of technical cooperation outputs as part of a separate section in the programme performance report was appreciated. The view was expressed that indicators of achievement should be firmly aligned with the expected accomplishments, as they were often vague. In addition, indicators of achievement often lacked an immediate connection to performance measures, which should be more uniform.

29. The overall Secretariat implementation rate of 91 per cent for the biennium 2004-2005, as compared to 85 per cent attained in 2002-2003, was noted with satisfaction and appreciation. It was noted that that was a reflection of improved programme planning and a step in the right direction towards more efficient programme implementation.

30. The deepening involvement of programme managers, while appreciated, needed further improvement to ensure achievement of results and optimal use of resources. It was emphasized that, in the future, the participation of senior programme managers in results-based management training should be enhanced. Furthermore, the development of a Secretariat-wide system to support results based management was needed.

Conclusions and recommendations

31. **The Committee commended the Office of Internal Oversight Services for improving the programme performance report and for responding positively to requests by the General Assembly and the Committee for Programme and Coordination to improve performance reporting and advance a results-based culture in the United Nations. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that all programme managers and their staff improve their performance in the area of utilizing programme performance data in decision-making.**

32. While recognizing the improvements in the issuance of the report in relation to the previous biennium, the Committee noted with concern that the report was not issued in accordance with the six-week rule[1] and stressed the need for compliance. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to emphasize the need for all departments to provide the required information on time in order to facilitate proper and more effective consideration of the report by Member States.

33. The Committee noted with appreciation that the programme performance report included in each section a box with a brief description of challenges, obstacles and unmet goals, as requested by the Committee during its forty-fourth session. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to develop that information, in particular for unmet goals, in order to improve consistency and standardize the presentation of information across all programmes.

34. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that, in addition to quantitative parameters, more importance should be given in future programme performance reports to the qualitative assessment of programme implementation. The Committee stressed the need to enhance quality control and evaluation criteria for the implementation of programmes.

35. The Committee stressed the importance of a more introspective and analytical approach, focusing on existing problems as well as on the potential for increasing the effectiveness of the implementation of programmes.

B. Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009

Part One
Plan outline

36. At its 7th meeting, on 21 August 2006, the Committee considered Part One, Plan outline, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 (A/61/6 (Part One)).

37. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the document.

Discussion

38. It was recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 58/269, affirmed that the strategic framework, consisting of Part One, Plan outline, and Part Two, Biennial programme plan, constituted the principal policy directive of the United Nations. It was also recalled that in the same resolution, the Assembly decided to review the strategic framework at its sixty-second session.

39. It was noted that the plan outline was general in nature and summarized some parts of the World Summit Outcome. The view was expressed that a number of areas were not adequately covered in the plan outline, including poverty eradication,

[1] Rule 13, paragraph 4, of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council (E/5715/Rev.2).

Africa's needs, the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the Middle East crisis, HIV/AIDS, disarmament, climate change, globalization, racism and diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. Concern was expressed that the document did not reflect longer-term objectives. It was pointed out that many programmes did not end after two years and the reflection of longer-term objectives was an important element of the revisions approved in resolution 58/269.

40. The view was expressed that part one focused on format and, unfortunately, did not provide an idea of the challenges facing the Organization. In that regard, the view was expressed that the document should also reflect lessons learned and positive experiences of the past period, and strategies to reform the Organization. It was pointed out that the strategic framework would be the basis for preparation of the budget and the document was an important one for both Member States and programme managers.

41. It was recalled that at its forty-fourth session, the Committee had been unable to reach a position on the previous proposed plan outline and a position had been reached only on the priorities and the biennial programme plan. Support was expressed for the maintenance of the priorities as proposed for the period 2008-2009.

42. It was recognized that there was a link between part one and part two and the importance of programme manager involvement in the preparation of part one was emphasized. It was pointed out that the programme plan had to set forth the goal of programmes, which were under the responsibility of programme managers and, where possible, should not be mixed with responsibilities of Member States. It was noted that in the biennial programme plan, the practice in place required the reflection of indicators of achievement, but not baselines and targets. The view was expressed that more attention should be paid to standard-setting and that should be taken into account in legislative mandates. Concern was expressed that only a few specialized intergovernmental bodies had reviewed the biennial programme plan and made recommendations. It was noted that more needed to be done in the area of programme evaluation and the Organization should take the appropriate steps.

43. It was recalled that that was the third plan using the logical framework and it was stressed that more consistency was required across programmes. It was noted that some indicators of achievement seemed appropriate and useful, while others needed to be refined. It was acknowledged that there was improvement, but it was also pointed out that, in some cases, it was necessary to refine indicators of achievement, which were sometimes not linked to the expected accomplishments.

44. It was noted that the "objective of the Organization" should be replaced with the "objective of the subprogramme" throughout the document "Strategic framework for the period 2008-2009". It was indicated that that amendment would allow the Committee to identify specific goals of the United Nations Secretariat and to distinguish between them and the objectives of the Organization, thus promoting the managerial responsibility of the Secretariat.

45. It was indicated that a delegation would not participate in discussions of language proposals concerning the strategic framework in the absence of concrete, meaningful progress in the Committee's working methods and procedures. At the same time, it was indicated that the absence of such interventions did not convey or imply support, and the right to take a position on those issues was reserved, pending

assessment of overall accomplishments at the conclusion of the forty-sixth session of the Committee. Furthermore, it was stated that the delegation would continue to keep an open mind when the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination was submitted to the Fifth Committee later in the year.

46. It was noted that consideration of document A/60/537 would be in line with the relevant decisions already taken by the General Assembly, as noted in document A/61/131.

Conclusions and recommendations

47. **The Committee stressed that the plan outline should represent the longer-term objectives of the Organization, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269. In that regard, the Committee stressed the importance of ensuring that efforts to implement the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major international conferences and summits were accurately captured in the next plan outline.**

48. **The Committee recommended that, at the stage of strategic framework preparation, the Secretariat should formulate expected accomplishments in a way that ensured that, at the stage of budget preparation, all activities and outputs mandated by Member States were included.**

49. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly encourage programme managers to continue their efforts to improve the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievement to enable better evaluation of qualitative changes in services provided.**

50. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include in future biennial programme plans a table with information for each programme, setting out the entities responsible for each subprogramme.**

51. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the priorities for the period 2008-2009 contained in paragraph 9 of the plan outline.**

52. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to revise the plan outline (Part One) of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 so as to ensure that it accurately captured the longer-term objectives of the Organization based on mandates that had been approved by Member States.**

53. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly review the plan outline (Part One) of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 so that it more accurately reflected the longer-term objectives of the Organization.**

Programme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

54. At its 10th meeting, on 22 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009 (A/61/6 (Prog. 1)).

55. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

56. General support was expressed for the proposed programme, and the importance of the services provided to Member States by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in New York and the other conference-servicing duty stations, namely Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, was recognized. The reform measures undertaken by the Department to improve its performance and the incorporation into the programme of the views put forward in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (General Assembly resolution 60/1) were noted and commended. Concerns were expressed about how the Department would ensure equal treatment of all six official languages of the United Nations, as called for in Assembly resolution 60/236 B. The view was expressed that conference services in Nairobi were still in need of improvement, and questions were raised as to whether sufficient progress had been made on long-standing issues of recruitment of interpreters and strengthening of the information technology unit in the conference services area.

57. It was emphasized that it was important for the Department to improve its coordination and communication in the area of conference services and to avoid overlap and duplication between Headquarters and the conference-servicing duty stations of Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. The subject of outsourcing of conference services, such as the use of freelancers and contractual services, was raised and the question of whether different approaches were taken at other conference-servicing duty stations arose. Concern was expressed about the impact outsourcing would have on the staff of the Department.

58. Views were expressed in support of the proposed strategic framework. However, while general support was expressed for the overall orientation of the programme, concern was raised that the logical framework of the programme plan was excessively standardized and, for that reason, did not provide sufficiently for the specific conference-servicing needs programmed for each duty station. Concern was also expressed that the quality of documentation and conference services had not been sufficiently emphasized in the logical framework, nor had the requirement to improve the timely issuance of parliamentary documentation. Regarding indicators of achievement of the programme, support was expressed for the use of client surveys. However, the view was also expressed that the programme lacked a clear strategy to provide an alternative effective mechanism for Member States to evaluate the performance of the Department, as called for in section II, part B, paragraph 4, of General Assembly resolution 60/236 B. The view was expressed that the content of the current survey questionnaire needed to be improved and

expanded, and that surveys should be conducted on a regular basis. The question of how to increase the provision of conference services to regional and other major groupings of Member States was also raised.

Conclusions and recommendations

59. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 1.3

In the second sentence, replace the words "the timely issuance of documentation" with the words "to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible".

Paragraph 1.4

Replace the last sentence with

"Effective measures to be taken by the Department to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, will provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and will be in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly".

A. Conference management, New York

Subprogramme 1
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs and members of expert bodies referring to the conduct of meetings as well as the level and quality of technical secretariat services".

Paragraph 1.5

In subparagraph (a), delete the words "strengthening and revitalizing".

Subprogramme 2
Planning, development and coordination of conference services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the words "Overall improvement in the" with the word "Improved".

Replace expected accomplishment (e) with "(e) Increased provision of conference services that are requested by regional and other major groupings of Member States".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs and members of expert bodies as to the quality of conference services".

Delete indicator (d) (iii).

At the beginning of indicators (e) (i) and (ii), insert the word "Increased".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.6

In subparagraph (g), after the words "conference services", delete the remainder of the text and insert the words

"in accordance with legislative mandates, in order to plan, process, monitor and manage documentation and meeting services more effectively, while keeping the General Assembly aware of new technologies that can be used in the Organization to achieve timeliness and better quality of services provided".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "(b) Quality and cost-effectiveness of editing and translation services".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs, members of expert bodies and client departments as to the quality of translation and editorial services".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.7

In the second sentence, after the words "achieving greater", insert the words "quality and".

In subparagraph (d), after the words "capable of supporting", delete the word "full".

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the beginning of expected accomplishment (b), insert the words "Quality and".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs, members of expert bodies and client departments as to the quality of interpretation, verbatim reporting and publishing services".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.8

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the words "to achieve better quality and timeliness".

B. C. and D. Conference management, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi

Subprogramme 2
Planning, development and coordination of conference services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the words "Overall improvement in the" with the word "Improved".

Replace expected accomplishment (e) with "(e) Increased provision of conference services that are requested by regional and other major groupings of Member States".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs and members of expert bodies as to the quality of conference services".

Delete indicator (d) (iii).

At the beginning of indicators (e) (i) and (ii), insert the word "Increased".

Strategy

Paragraph 1.9

In subparagraph (f), after the words "conference services", delete the remainder of the text and insert the words

"in accordance with legislative mandates, in order to plan, process, monitor and manage documentation and meeting services more effectively, while keeping the General Assembly aware of new technologies that can be used in the Organization to achieve timeliness and better quality of services provided".

Subprogramme 3
Documentation services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with "(b) Quality and cost-effectiveness of editing and translation services".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs, members of expert bodies and client departments as to the quality of translation and editorial services".

Strategy

Paragraphs 1.10, 1.13 and 1.16

In the second sentence, after the words "achieving greater", insert the words "quality and".

In subparagraph (d), after the words "capable of supporting", delete the word "full".

Subprogramme 4
Meetings and publishing services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the beginning of expected accomplishment (b), insert the words "Quality and".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (a) with "(a) Reduced number of complaints by representatives of Member States to intergovernmental organs, members of expert bodies and client departments as to the quality of interpretation, verbatim reporting and publishing services".

Strategy

Paragraphs 1.11, 1.14 and 1.17

At the end of subparagraph (b), insert the words "to achieve better quality and timeliness".

Programme 2
Political affairs

60. At its 7th meeting, on 21 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 2, Political affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 2)).

61. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

62. Appreciation and support were expressed for the work of the Department of Political Affairs carried out through its various subprogrammes and the good offices of the Secretary-General.

63. It was emphasized that more closely coordinated and peaceful preventive measures, including diplomatic efforts, were the most important tools for the maintenance of international peace and security. Support was expressed for activities focused on prevention, control and resolution of conflicts, as well as for post-conflict peacebuilding activities. The view was expressed that capacity for early warning and preventive actions, including the good offices role of the Secretary-General, were central to the work of the Department of Political Affairs. It was pointed out that preventive diplomacy faced major challenges and required resources and innovative ideas. It was stressed that preventive measures were more cost-effective than peacekeeping operations in maintaining international peace and security.

64. Support was expressed for the important post-conflict peacebuilding activities, especially in countries coming out of conflict. It was observed that the positive results of the work of the regional organizations in relation to the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts was important and needed to be reflected in the biennial programme plan.

65. Appreciation and support were expressed for the important work carried out by the Department in promoting democracy and in providing electoral assistance, especially in countries where conflict situations had ended. It was emphasized that such work should be continued.

66. Support was expressed for the work carried out under subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, which was as important to the non-members of the Security Council as it was for the members of the Council. It was observed that it was necessary for the Department of Political Affairs to revisit the issues relating to the application of sanctions.

67. Views were expressed in support of the mandate of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as of the United Nations

activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration. Views were expressed that the Special Committee was established by the General Assembly and that it must continue to carry out its functions as mandated by the Assembly until all the 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories became independent. The view was also expressed that, as already indicated in the context of the review of mandates of the Organization requested in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (General Assembly resolution 60/1, para. 163 (b)), the Special Committee should be downsized or abolished.

68. Views were expressed in support of the activities carried out in relation to the question of Palestine and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Concern also was expressed about the current situation in the Middle East. It was pointed out that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People had been established by the General Assembly and that it must carry out its mandate accordingly until the question of Palestine was resolved. It was also pointed out that efforts to increase the awareness of the international community and its related support were important in seeking a solution to the question of Palestine. It was observed that the activities of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division of Palestinian Rights were not balanced and did not contribute to the efforts of the Diplomatic Quartet on the Middle East. In that regard, the view was expressed that the Committee and the Division should be abolished.

69. Support was expressed for the United Nations role with regard to the Middle East peace process carried out through the Office of the Special Coordinator.

70. It was indicated that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further improvement and refinement.

71. Clarification was sought on the access by the Department of Political Affairs to the Democracy Fund and the nature of its participation. The Committee was informed that an official from the Department of Political Affairs chaired the Project Review Committee.

Conclusions and recommendations

72. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 2, Political affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modification:**

Subprogramme 1
Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace the text of expected accomplishment (b) with "Maintenance of peace processes on track".

Programme 3
Disarmament

73. At its 7th meeting, on 21 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 3)).

74. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

75. The Committee welcomed the presentation of the narrative of programme 3. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the Department for Disarmament Affairs and its efforts in disarmament, arms limitation and non-proliferation. General support was expressed for the disarmament programme, but it was noted that the report should conform to mandates and the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2006-2007. The view was expressed that the proposed biennial programme plan placed more emphasis on non-proliferation than on disarmament in general, and that the priority of disarmament should be clearly reflected. It was urged that a balance be accorded between weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms, in particular small arms and light weapons and landmines.

76. Concern was expressed that the efforts of the regional centres for peace and disarmament had not been emphasized in the proposed plan. It was indicated that an assessment of the work of the centres should be undertaken with a view to determining whether any improvements could be made.

77. The initiative of the Department to increase the use of electronic media for the dissemination and exchange of information, in particular to the general public, was welcomed. The view was expressed that a list of countries that had ratified the disarmament treaties and agreements should be provided. Clarifications were also sought regarding the relationship between the Department and the Conference on Disarmament and coordination between the two entities. The Committee was informed that the secretariat of the Conference, located in Geneva, was part of the Department.

78. The view was expressed that some indicators of achievement were too vague for measuring expected accomplishments. The setting of benchmarks and targets that were realistic and measurable was urged.

Conclusions and recommendations

79. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.2

Revise the paragraph to read:

"3.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). The programme is also guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see resolution 55/2) and takes into account other relevant resolutions of the United Nations. Weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be of primary concern to the Organization. Conventional disarmament, especially with regard to major weapons systems, small arms and light

weapons and landmines, has received growing attention from the international community over the past few years."

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Objective of the Organization

Revise the objective to read:

"to support multilateral negotiations and deliberations on agreements on arms limitation and disarmament, including non-proliferation in all its aspects, and provide support as required by States parties to the existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements in those areas".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Revise expected accomplishment (a) to read:

"(a) Enhanced quality of organizational and substantive services provided to the Conference on Disarmament and to the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral agreements on arms limitation and disarmament, including non-proliferation in all its aspects".

Revise expected accomplishment (b) to read:

"(b) Enhanced assistance in the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (c) (i), after the words "Member States", add the words "in particular developing countries".

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Objective of the Organization

Revise the objective to read:

"to promote and support the efforts for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and to assist Member States, at their request, in supporting existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Revise expected accomplishment (b) to read:

"(b) Enhanced use by Member States of information on issues relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, including new trends and developments, as well as on the potential threat

of use of weapons of mass destruction and related materials in terrorist acts".

Revise expected accomplishment (c) to read: "(c) Greater awareness by Member States of the need for gender mainstreaming in the substance and activities of the subprogramme".

Indicators of achievement

Revise indicator (c) to read: "(c) Increased percentage of female representation in governmental expert panels/groups mandated by the General Assembly and in events organized by the Branch".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.8

Revise subparagraph (c) to read:

"(c) Enhancing cooperation in accordance with existing arrangements with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, as well as expanding interaction with civil society, in particular research and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations working in the area of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems".

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator (b) (ii) to read: "(ii) Percentage of States providing additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings, pending the development of the Register by Member States". Renumber the subsequent indicator accordingly.

Subprogramme 4
Information and outreach

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator (b) as (b) (i) and add a new indicator (b) (ii) to read:

> **"(ii) Owing to proactive measures, increased number of responses from Member States to notes circulated by the Department inviting them to communicate their views on the issues outlined or information requested in relevant General Assembly resolutions".**

Subprogramme 5
Regional disarmament

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c), add the words "in all its aspects" after the word "non-proliferation".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (c), insert the words "in all its aspects" after the word "non-proliferation".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.11

In subparagraphs (a) and (f), include the words "in all its aspects" after the word "non-proliferation".

Revise subparagraph (d) to read: "(d) Supporting national, regional and subregional implementation of existing multilateral instruments and resolutions on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects".

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolution:

56/24 O General and complete disarmament: 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee

Programme 4
Peacekeeping operations

80. At its 8th meeting, on 21 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 4)).

81. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

82. Overall support was expressed for the programme of work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The view was expressed that peacekeeping represented one of the fundamental priorities of the work of the Organization.

83. It was stressed that the safety and security of personnel serving in the field should be accorded higher priority. Support was expressed for the integrated and coordinated approach to peacekeeping. The Committee welcomed enhanced cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and regional organizations. Appreciation was expressed for the Secretariat's efforts in supporting the enhancement of African peacekeeping capacities.

84. The Committee emphasized its support for zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in peacekeeping missions and for the implementation of a code of conduct among peacekeepers. Emphasis was also placed on the training of United Nations personnel in peacekeeping missions and on gender and geographical balance in the staffing of peacekeeping missions.

85. The view was expressed that the rapid deployment of military and police components was essential to the success of peacekeeping missions. It was indicated that there should be a continuous flow of information to and from Member States, particularly troop-contributing countries, in all phases of peacekeeping operations. It was pointed out that the programme should also incorporate disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities, quick-impact projects, post-conflict reconstruction and development activities.

86. The view was expressed that more information could be included under subprogramme 5, Mine-action coordination, in particular with regard to mandates, areas of coverage, participation of developing countries in the subprogramme and the extent of coordination and cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

87. It was indicated that some of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further refinement.

Conclusions and recommendations

88. **The Committee recommended that in implementing activities under programme 4, special attention be given to enhancing the safety and security of all United Nations staff and personnel, including peacekeepers in the field, in coordination with the Department of Safety and Security.**

89. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 3
Military

Strategy

Paragraph 4.9

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and the procedures that address issues related to conduct and discipline".

Subprogramme 4
Civilian police

In expected accomplishments (a) and (b) and in paragraphs 4.11 and 4.14, replace the words "peace operations" with the words "peacekeeping operations".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment as follows:

"(c) Sustainable national police services supported for post-conflict societies".

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator of achievement as follows:

"(c) Increased number of post-conflict societies in which sustainable national police institutions and services have been developed".

Strategy

Paragraph 4.14

In the last sentence, delete the words "such as the Rule of Law Index, to independently and critically assess local criminal justice systems; and the international police advisory council, which will advise on international strategic police matters".

Programme 5
Peaceful uses of outer space

90. At its 18th meeting, on 29 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 5)).

91. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 5 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

92. Support was expressed for the programme. The work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs and its benefits to developing countries were recognized and commended. The strengthening capacity, in particular of developing countries, in the development of national space law as well as the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas related to sustainable development, was recognized. The work of the programme related to the use of space technology in disaster management was commended.

Conclusions and recommendations

93. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator of achievement (c) as (c) (i) and add the following new indicators of achievement:

"(c) (ii) Increased number of partnerships with industry

"(c) (iii) Increased number of joint technical workshops in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency on the objectives, scope and general attributes of a potential technical safety standard for nuclear power sources in outer space

"(c) (iv) **Increased number of agreements between the Office for Outer Space Affairs and regional centres for space science and technology education and their continuing education programmes".**

Programme 6
Legal affairs

94. At its 8th meeting, on 21 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 6)).

95. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

96. General appreciation and support were expressed for the work carried out by the Office of Legal Affairs through its various subprogrammes. The important role played by the Office in promoting better understanding and respect for the principles of international law was recognized.

97. Satisfaction was expressed with regard to the improvements in the websites of the Sixth Committee and the International Law Commission. Concern was expressed regarding the timely issuance of documentation in all six official languages, however.

98. Clarification was sought regarding the role of academic institutions in the programme of assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. It was suggested that training courses on international law be expanded to include lawyers and members of academic institutions from developing countries.

99. Particular appreciation was expressed for the substantive and technical support provided by the Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea. The view was expressed that increased participation of non-governmental organizations in the consultative processes on oceans and the law of the sea would decrease the effectiveness of those processes.

100. Clarification was sought on the administration of justice, especially relating to staff grievances, and information was provided on the process regarding staff members' right and access to counsel.

101. The view was expressed that wider access to the United Nations Treaty Collection should be provided, specifically for academics and researchers. Clarification was provided that recent improvements in the website of the Treaty Section included free access and enhanced capability to search text within documents.

102. The view was expressed that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further refinement.

Conclusions and recommendations

103. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 6.1

Revise the paragraph to read

"The overall purpose of the programme is to promote a better understanding by Member States of and respect for the principles and norms of international law in order to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations."

Paragraph 6.4

Replace the first sentence with

"The Office will provide services and legal advice, upon request, to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States." Replace the second sentence with "It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations system for the rule of law, in particular observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, regulations, rules and treaties emanating from the Organization."

Subprogramme 1
Overall direction, management and coordination of legal advice and services to the United Nations as a whole

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of the expected accomplishment, insert the words "and supporting international justice mechanisms, as mandated".

Strategy

Paragraph 6.5

In the second sentence, after the words "legal advice", insert the words "at their request" and, at the end of the paragraph, insert the words "if requested".

Paragraph 6.7

Revise the paragraph to read:

"A further objective of the subprogramme is to support the development of international justice and an end to impunity through help to existing international and internationally assisted tribunals. To that end, the Office will work to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the Security Council, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda operate, in their administrative activities, in accordance with the Charter, regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations and, as judicial organs, act within

their statutes. Within the framework of the subprogramme, the Office will advise the principal and subsidiary organs of the Organization on legal aspects of the activities of the above-mentioned tribunals and on matters arising in their relations with those tribunals. It will also advise the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda regarding their relationships with States and host countries. The Office will advise the principal and subsidiary organs regarding the Negotiated Relationship Agreement between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations. The Office will assist in the establishment of other tribunals, as mandated, and help to develop transitional justice mechanisms if mandated."

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator (a) (iii) to read: "(iii) Satisfaction of the International Law Commission with the services provided".

Add a new indicator (a) (iv) to read: "(iv) Satisfaction of the Member States with services provided to the Sixth Committee".

Strategy

Paragraph 6.14

In the last sentence, after the words "seminars and", insert the words "enhanced distribution and".

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (b) (iii), replace the words "sustainable development of the oceans and seas" with the words "sustainable uses of the oceans and seas, the equitable and efficient utilization of their resources, the conservation of their living resources and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment".

In indicator (c) (ii), delete the word "increased".

Strategy

Paragraph 6.19

In the first sentence, replace the words "aspects of marine affairs" with "aspects of ocean affairs".

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment to read: "(d) Facilitating the work of UNCITRAL".

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator to read: "(d) Satisfaction of UNCITRAL with the services provided".

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

104. At its 11th meeting, on 23 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 7)).

105. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

106. Strong support was expressed for the programme and its objectives and subprogrammes. The view was expressed that the narratives were well drafted and correctly reflected intensified focus on implementing the United Nations development agenda, that is, internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as reaffirmed at the 2005 World Summit and set out in the Millennium Declaration, Monterrey Consensus and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. In that regard, the importance of full implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/265 and of greater engagement of all development cooperation partners was stressed. The role that the Department could play in promoting South-South cooperation was also emphasized.

107. The particular focus of the programme on facilitating initiatives to eradicate poverty and hunger and to promote human and social development, with emphasis on gender, vulnerable groups and HIV/AIDS, was noted with appreciation.

108. The view was expressed that some of the indicators of achievement of the programme could be improved, while the scope of some expected accomplishments could be expanded. The view was also expressed that some objectives and accomplishments were too general and some were not logically coordinated and complementary. The view was further expressed that the indicators of achievement for some subprogrammes should be both quantitative and qualitative.

109. Support was expressed for strengthening the role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to advance the overall reform of the United Nations and the related activities under subprogramme 1, Economic and Social Council support and coordination. The view was expressed that the role of the Council should be strengthened through improved linkages between normative and

operational work. The importance of the Council's role in coordinating the Organization's work on post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding in cooperation with the Peacebuilding Commission was emphasized.

110. The view was expressed that the focus of indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 1 on the increased number of resolutions reflecting consensus on major development issues should be fully honoured. The need to enhance the frequency of the Economic and Social Council meetings on the efficiency and coordination of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, including in the context of the review of operational activities, was emphasized. The view was further expressed that the process currently under way to negotiate the strengthening of the Council, which could possibly have an effect on the subprogramme, should be borne in mind.

111. It was observed that under subprogramme 2, gender issues and advancement of women, the importance of strengthening national capacities through strengthened education on gender should be highlighted. It was also noted that reference to the agreed conclusions of the International Conference on Population and Development should be added to the narrative of subprogramme 2.

112. The view was expressed that under subprogramme 3, social policy and development, more emphasis should be placed on policy analysis and on support for vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, older persons and youth.

113. Under subprogramme 4, sustainable development, efforts to enhance work for sustainable development in accordance with the United Nations development agenda, including the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, were welcomed. The importance of national capacity-building, technology transfer and financing for sustainable development under the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation was emphasized. The view was also expressed that the provision of information on partnerships, with specific focus on the actual benefits to Member States, remained an important aspect of subprogramme 4.

114. Support was expressed for the importance of the role of subprogramme 5, statistics, in improving the national capacity of developing countries in statistics and its direct impact for achieving the internationally agreed development goals and implementing national development strategies.

115. The view was expressed that more emphasis should be placed on population issues and trends in the area of HIV/AIDS under subprogramme 6, population. It was also noted that the operational component of the strategy should be strengthened.

116. It was observed that issues related to decentralized government and the increased role of civil society in governance were not adequately addressed under subprogramme 8, public administration and development management.

117. The view was expressed that effective global policies were yet to be developed under subprogramme 9, sustainable forest management. It was emphasized that the necessity of reversing forest degradation and decline should be adequately reflected in the subprogramme. It was also noted that the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests should become legally binding.

118. The objective of promoting and supporting sustained follow-up to the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development was particularly welcomed. The importance of predictable financing for development and effective planning on a secure and continued basis was emphasized. It was also observed that specific measures to encourage the involvement of international, regional, subregional and national institutions in implementing the Monterrey Consensus should be reflected in the subprogramme narrative. The view was also expressed that the programme should give more attention to new mechanisms for mobilizing funds for financing development.

Conclusions and recommendations

119. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 7.1

In the first sentence, after the words "is to promote", insert the words "and support international cooperation in the pursuit of"; after the word "growth", insert the words "hunger and".

Paragraph 7.4

In the second sentence, after the words "United Nations entities dealing", delete the words "at the country level".

Paragraph 7.7

At the end of the paragraph, insert the sentence "Efforts will be made to promote and develop new methods and mechanisms of better knowledge, through the establishment of new knowledge communities through the Intranet."

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), after the word "proportion", insert the words "as appropriate".

Subprogramme 3
Social policy and development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (ii), before the words "social development issues", insert the words "not fully addressed".

Paragraph 7.10

In the first sentence of subparagraph (a), delete the words "the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities".

After subparagraph (a), insert new subparagraph (b), to read: "(b) Facilitating the finalization, adoption and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities"; redesignate the remaining subparagraphs of paragraph 7.10 accordingly.

Subprogramme 4
Sustainable development

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a), replace the word "including" with the words "as well as an increased level of satisfaction of Member States with".

Paragraph 7.11

At the end of subparagraph (a), add the words "and international cooperation".

Subprogramme 8
Public administration and development agenda

Objective of the Organization

Replace the existing text with the following:

"to promote efficient, accountable, participatory and transparent public administration for the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences".

Expected accomplishments

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the words "the cross-cutting issues of public sector reform" with the words "issues related to public administration".

In expected accomplishment (b), replace the words "public sector reform" with the words "public administration".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a), delete the words "on the cross-cutting issues".

120. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly allocate subprogramme 1 of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 to the Second Committee for its review and action under the agenda item entitled "Programme planning".**

121. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the proposed revisions to programme 7 of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 (A/61/125).**

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

122. At its 13th meeting, on 24 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 8)).

123. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

124. Overall support was expressed for the activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in mobilizing and coordinating international support for the programme. The view was expressed that the proposed biennial programme plan for the programme was well presented. It was also indicated that international resources would be necessary for implementation of the Brussels and the Almaty Programmes of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

125. Emphasis was placed on the evaluation of the impact of the programme, the reporting on the status of the implementation of the three programmes of action, the inter-agency partnership and coordination, and the participation of countries concerned in formulating the programme.

126. Concern was expressed that the proposed biennial programme plan for the programme was very general in nature. It was suggested that specific areas of development, such as agriculture, energy and trade, might be included. Concern was also expressed about the status of implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action. Clarification was sought on how the international commitments to support least developed countries could be ensured. It was suggested that the objective of subprogramme 1, least developed countries, could be applied to the other two subprogrammes.

127. Regarding subprogramme 3, small island developing States, it was stressed that there was a need to enhance partnership in support for the small island developing States. The Office was encouraged to promote awareness about those States through the use of information technology and United Nations websites and publications.

128. Further refinements to some indicators of achievement would be welcome.

Conclusions and recommendations

129. **The Committee stressed the importance of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and expressed support for the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in coordinating and mobilizing international support and enhancing inter-agency collaboration for the programme.**

130. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan.**

Programme 9
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

131. At its 15th meeting, on 25 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 9)).

132. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

133. Strong support was expressed for the programme and appreciation was expressed for the important coordinating role and work so far of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa. The view was expressed that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) represented a vision and a strategic framework for Africa's renewal.

134. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the programme in providing a framework for coordinated and coherent support by the international community for Africa's development, which would be an important tool for Africa in realizing the Millennium Development Goals. At the same time, the view was expressed that the achievement of the Goals could not be accomplished by Africa on its own, but that the mobilization of the international community was required to provide the necessary resources and increase development assistance efforts, including overseas development aid, provide long-term development support, ensure close working relationships with the Bretton Woods institutions and strengthen South-South cooperation in support of Africa's development.

135. It was hoped that the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa would continue to fulfil its mandate of effectively monitoring the implementation of the relevant commitments contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome (General Assembly resolution 60/1) and that an appropriate follow-up mechanism would be put in place to ensure that the substantive proposals contained in the Outcome were pursued.

136. The view was expressed that global advocacy, regional coordination and public information and awareness in support of NEPAD were important objectives.

137. It was recognized that one of the biggest challenges facing NEPAD at the moment was to find human resources capacity at the national and regional levels to implement the programme. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa was encouraged to pursue greater strategic oversight of the implementation of regional coordination.

138. It was emphasized that a stable and prosperous Africa was essential for world peace and development, and as such the view was expressed that African countries needed to intensify their efforts, with concerted support from the international

community, including the United Nations system, to bring about durable peace and sustainable development in Africa and to fight corruption.

139. While it was acknowledged that advocacy was an important part of subprogramme 1, coordination of global advocacy of and support for NEPAD, the view was expressed that the focus should not only be on United Nations systems support and that the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa should develop a strategy for outside support. At the same time, measures should be taken to develop a more effective awareness campaign and to establish a link between the United Nations University and academic institutions in Africa, as education and information exchange were regarded as key success factors for the development of Africa.

140. The view was expressed that there was a need to increase the visibility of the activities and objectives of United Nations support for NEPAD, which were not yet sufficiently known, both inside and outside Africa.

141. The importance of subprogramme 3, public information and awareness activities in support of NEPAD, was acknowledged as a means of increasing international awareness and mobilizing support for the development of Africa through the existing Department of Public Information network and the media; hence, the need for effective coordination between the Department and the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa was emphasized in order to achieve the overall objective of global advocacy in support of Africa's development. At the same time, the Office and the Department were encouraged to continue to expand and develop their advocacy on behalf of Africa to include activities at the grass-roots level in order to establish a clear understanding of the objectives of United Nations system support for NEPAD at all levels, as well as target business groups as a source of concrete partnerships and projects. At the same time, structured cooperation with the mass media should form part of the public information campaign.

142. It was indicated that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further refinement, especially with regard to making reference to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Conclusions and recommendations

143. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of accomplishment (b), insert the words "with the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals".

Strategy

Paragraph 9.10

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence:

"The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will make available on its website summary updates of monitoring done by expert bodies of progress in implementing commitments made to Africa in this context."

Subprogramme 3
Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Objective of the Organization

After the words "sustainable development of the region", replace the word "support" with the words "pursuit of the goals".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add new accomplishment (c) to read "(c) Enhanced awareness of the target audience of the aims of NEPAD".

Indicators of achievement

Add new indicator (c) to read "(c) The percentage of the target audience indicating awareness of the aims of NEPAD".

Programme 10
Trade and development

144. At its 13th meeting, on 24 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 10, Trade and development, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 10)).

145. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

146. Support was expressed for the programme of work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC), which was in accordance with the São Paulo Consensus. The quality of the overall orientation of the programme presented in the proposed biennial programme plan was commended.

147. The view was expressed that the important roles of UNCTAD and ITC through their subprogrammes were recognized. It was noted that those subprogrammes would, inter alia, create better conditions for global trade of developing countries, assist their integration in the world economy and tackle poverty in a manner that enhanced the development opportunities offered by the globalization process, while helping to shape international economic relations in the twenty-first century. The role of UNCTAD as the focal point in the United Nations for issues in the areas of

finance, technology, investment and sustainable development was also commended. The technical assistance to be provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition under subprogrammes 2 (investment, enterprise and technology), 3 (international trade), 4 (services, infrastructure for development, trade efficiency and human resources development) and 6 (operational aspects of trade promotion and export development) was welcomed.

148. Support was expressed for strengthening the capacity of UNCTAD and its work in three pillars, namely, consensus-building, research and policy analysis, and technical assistance. The view was expressed that the necessary resources should be guaranteed to fulfil its mandate. The view was also expressed that the role of UNCTAD as a think tank should be retained and strengthened. It was indicated that in view of the current situation of WTO negotiations, the Generalized System of Preferences for developing countries must be revitalized. The view was expressed that the programme was too generic, and UNCTAD should strengthen the efforts in promoting South-South trade and fighting forgery and corruption.

149. The efforts of UNCTAD in contributing to the attainment and implementation of the outcomes of recent global conferences were welcomed.

150. The importance of subprogramme 1, globalization, interdependence and development, was emphasized, in particular in the following areas: capacity-building, poverty reduction and strategies for developing countries' adaptation to the challenges of globalization. Concern was expressed about the effect of globalization on international trade for least developed countries, in particular on the low price of commodities produced by the least developed countries versus the high price of finished products manufactured by developed countries, contributing to poverty conditions. Endorsement was expressed on expected accomplishment (b) of subprogramme 1 with regard to progress towards debt sustainability in developing countries. Support was expressed for the Working Party's view that adequate resources be provided to strengthen UNCTAD activities in its support for the development of the Palestinian economy.

151. With regard to subprogramme 2, support was expressed for the role of UNCTAD in promoting a better understanding of policies that would attract and benefit from foreign direct investment and technology transfer and the development dimension of international agreements. The view was expressed that the work of UNCTAD would foster improved opportunities for enterprises in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enhance their competitiveness. The role of UNCTAD with regard to the statistics on foreign direct investment worldwide for Africa was noted and the view was expressed that the same should be done for other regions. Moreover, the importance of the additional words "through effective policy and prudential regulation for expansion of the insurance sector" in expected accomplishment (c) was noted. The view was expressed that the programme should also aim to strengthen coordination among policymakers to avoid duplication.

152. As to subprogramme 3, the view was expressed that it was important for developing countries to have more access to markets in the developed countries, in particular in agriculture, and it was imperative that developed countries facilitate the process. The view was expressed that the initiative undertaken in paragraph 12 of annex III to conference room paper E/AC.51/2006/CRP.1, regarding the Trade and Development Index, was welcomed, and consideration should be given to improving

it, perhaps by increasing the number of countries and factors that were included in the basket of consideration so as to ensure they were not too limited. The view was expressed that the commodity sector of subprogramme 3 was important to developing countries as well as the efforts to integrate commodity production into development. A query was raised as to how UNCTAD contributed to the stability of commodity prices.

153. Support was expressed for the role of subprogramme 4 in improving the competitiveness in international trade of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through the use of information technology and human resources development, which might also have high value in regional groups such as MERCOSUR (Common Market of the South) and the South American Community of Nations.

154. The movement of "Development of Africa" from subprogramme 1 to subprogramme 5, least developed countries, Africa and special programmes, was welcomed. Support was expressed for making least developed countries and Africa a priority. The importance of the request of the Working Party "to ensure the integrity of the mandates of all the subprogrammes" was expressed as well as the need to strengthen the development dimension in the implementation of the programmes to ensure a development focus in new initiatives. In that regard, the view was expressed that UNCTAD should have consulted African Governments beforehand. The division of subprogramme 5 into three sections, namely, Development of Africa, Least developed countries and Special programmes, was supported, since the three sections promoted their social and economic development.

155. The view was expressed that countries in conflict and post-conflict situations should be taken into consideration in subprogramme 5. A disappointment was also expressed with the programme, which was the sine qua non for developing countries, concerning the lack of trade innovation for small island developing States. The continued focus on Africa and NEPAD was welcomed, especially bearing in mind the specific challenges African countries faced in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The importance was emphasized of adding the sentence "It will contribute to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules and national policies and development strategies" in paragraph 10.13 of the strategy.

156. The input made by the Working Party on the trade and development programmes, as reflected in annex III to conference room paper E/AC.51/2006/CRP.1, was supported.

157. Support was expressed for subprogramme 6, in particular the objective of ITC, inter alia, to foster sustainable human development and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the developing and transition economies through trade and international business development. The view was expressed that the involvement of the CARICOM (Caribbean Community) secretariat, the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery and the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, whenever appropriate, was anticipated.

Conclusions and recommendations

158. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 10, Trade and development, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

New paragraph

After paragraph 10.2, insert new paragraph 10.3 as follows and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly to the end:

"10.3 The work of UNCTAD in its three pillars, namely, research and analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation, will be strengthened. The independent analytical capacity of UNCTAD will be enhanced to ensure the high quality of research and analysis necessary to address key issues of importance to developing countries. The results of such analysis will support and reinforce its activities in consensus-building and technical cooperation."

Old paragraph 10.3

In the first sentence, replace the words "the eleventh session of UNCTAD" with "UNCTAD XI".

Delete the word "is" before the words "the examination" and the word "which" after the words "world economy".

Replace the word "principle" with the word "principal".

Add a new sentence before the last sentence to read, "The analytical work on least developed countries will be more effectively mainstreamed."

In the last sentence, replace the word "aforementioned" with the word "foregoing".

Old paragraph 10.6

Replace the first two sentences with the following:

"In an effort to respond better to changing global demand and the required reform of the United Nations, UNCTAD will explore ways and means to contribute effectively to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, with a view to integrating relevant countries, particularly post-conflict ones, in the global economy. UNCTAD will attempt first of all to take an organic approach that would enable it to address immediately and coherently issues of importance for developing countries facing the global challenges of today. The subprogramme for the development of Africa, least developed countries and countries in special situations intends to strengthen the subprogramme by maximizing the synergies of research and policy analysis and by taking a coherent approach to the issues of concern to those countries."

At the end of the paragraph, add the following phrase: "with a view to enhancing its research and analysis, while maintaining its intellectual integrity and independence".

Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the phrase "poverty reduction" with "hunger and poverty eradication".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the phrase "poverty reduction" with "hunger and poverty eradication".

At the end of expected accomplishment (d), add the following: "by strengthening UNCTAD activities in this field through the provision of adequate resources".

Subprogramme 2
Investment, enterprise and technology

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), after the words "competitiveness through", insert the words "effective policy and prudential regulation for expansion of the insurance sector".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (c), replace the word "percentage" with the word "number" and redesignate as "(c) (i)".

Add new indicator (c) (ii) to read: "(ii) Increased number of countries indicating effective policy advice and assistance provided by UNCTAD for improving insurance legislation, regulation and sector growth".

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.9

Replace the phrase "and to promote the transfer of technology and innovation" at the end of the paragraph with the phrase "to promote the transfer of technology and innovation and, in the field of insurance, to increase the capacity of developing countries to effectively regulate and upgrade the insurance sector."

Subprogramme 3
International trade

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), insert the phrase "including non-WTO members" before the words "to analyse".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a), insert the phrase "including non-WTO members" before the word "actively".

Replace indicator (b) (ii) as follows: "Increased number of countries and factors covered by the Trade and Development Index".

In indicator (c), replace the word "action" with the words "results-oriented actions".

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.10

In the third sentence, add the words "in order" after the words "monitored and analysed".

In the fourth sentence, replace the words "capacities and competitiveness" with the words "capacities, competitiveness and diversification".

In the last sentence, add the words "or improvement" after the word "elaboration" and add the phrase "including the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries (GSTP)" after the words "trade preferences".

Subprogramme 4
Services infrastructure for development, trade efficiency and human resources development

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator (c) as "(c) (i)".

Add new indicator (c) (ii) to read:

"(c) (ii) Number of government officials trained who consider that paragraph 166 courses (training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda) have significantly contributed to the understanding of key issues on the international economic agenda".

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.11

After the second sentence, add the following new sentence: "UNCTAD assistance to landlocked countries and their transit neighbours

will be strengthened, especially policy advice on transit transport agreements and infrastructure."

After the words "In particular", replace the word "it" with the words "the subprogramme".

In item (e), replace the word "building" with the word "supporting".

Add item (f) to read "(f) strengthening, through increased in-house cooperation and further integration of the work of the train-for-trade programme, the virtual institute, the training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda and other new initiatives."

Subprogramme 5
Least developed countries, Africa and special programmes

Revise the title of subprogramme 5 and its subsection headings to read:

"Subprogramme 5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

"A. Development of Africa

"B. Least developed countries

"C. Special programmes".

A. Least developed countries

Redesignate subtitle A as subtitle B and retain the name of the subtitle ("Least developed countries").

Shift the logframe (Objective of the Organization, Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat and Indicators of achievement) of old subtitle A to appear below the new titles.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (b), add "and the building of capacities for country ownership and implementation of the Action Matrices of the enhanced Integrated Framework".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (b), add the word "enhanced" before the words "Integrated Framework".

B. Development of Africa

Redesignate subtitle B as subtitle A and retain the name of the subtitle ("Development of Africa").

Shift the logframe (Objective of the Organization, Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat and Indicators of achievement) of old subtitle B to appear below the new titles.

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.12

Renumber the paragraph as 10.14.

Replace the first sentence with "The subprogramme is under the responsibility of the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes." In the second sentence, replace the words "through research" with the words "by carrying out research" and add the word "providing" before the words "technical assistance".

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.13

In the first sentence, replace the words "for Least Developed Countries, Africa and Special Programmes" with the words "Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes". In the second sentence, replace the word "It" with the words "The subprogramme". Add a new sentence before the last one to read "It will contribute to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules and national policies and development strategies."

C. Special programmes

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) as follows:

"(a) Enhanced international cooperation to implement the Almaty Programme of Action: addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, and to improve the effective participation of landlocked developing countries, as well as other groups of countries mentioned in paragraph 33 of the São Paulo Consensus, in the global trading system".

Strategy

Old paragraph 10.14

Renumber as paragraph 10.15.

In the first sentence, replace the words "Least Developed Countries, Africa" with the words "Africa, Least Developed Countries".

Add the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: "The subprogramme, through mainstreaming, will enhance the work on structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, as stated in paragraph 33 of the São Paulo Consensus."

Programme 11
Environment

159. At its 14th meeting, on 24 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 11, Environment, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 11)).

160. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

161. Support was expressed for programme 11 and its overall orientation.

162. The work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment was commended. Its overall objective to promote coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development by keeping the environment under review and responding to environmental challenges was noted.

163. Support was expressed for the major emphasis that would be placed on furthering the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, and the view was expressed that the Plan encompassed two vital issues, namely, capacity-building and technology transfer.

164. The objective of integrating and mainstreaming the gender equality perspective in all the subprogrammes was welcomed and its importance agreed upon.

165. Support was expressed for the contributions of United Nations environmental activities to the objectives of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields. The view was expressed that the programme, more importantly, preserved the integrity of the three pillars of sustainable development agreed to in Agenda 21 and at the Millennium Summit, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and, more recently, the 2005 World Summit.

166. The view was expressed that the intergovernmental nature of UNEP and the independent status of the legal aspects of the multilateral environmental agreements were not outlined in the biennial programme plan. It was emphasized that there was further need for cooperation and synergy between the multilateral environmental agreements and UNEP. The view was also expressed that funding through the Global Environment Facility should not be clouded by conditionalities of other multilateral institutions and that access to such funds should be made easier and be done in a fair and equitable manner for the improvement of the environment.

167. With regard to subprogramme 1, Environmental assessment and early warning, appreciation was expressed for the subprogramme's involvement in the timely consideration of environmental problems and decisions taken at the national and international levels and the assistance rendered to Governments in environmental assessment planning. The view was also expressed that it was important to have information on environmental catastrophe and preparedness carried out under the subprogramme. The view was expressed that a new expected accomplishment and corresponding indicator of achievement should be included under subprogramme 1 to reflect the coordination carried out by UNEP with other United Nations bodies, while another view was expressed that there were too many indicators of

achievement under the subprogramme. The view was expressed that expected accomplishment (c) was especially welcome, as most countries lacked ways to deal with environmental disasters.

168. The view was expressed that enhancing the capacity of Member States and the international community under subprogramme 2, Policy development and law, to develop environmental legal frameworks was a technical issue that was very important for sustainable development. The view was also expressed that system-wide coherence in expected accomplishment (f) to foster more efficient environmental activities in the United Nations system, with enhanced coordination, improved policy advice and guidance, must aim to add value over and above results that had been achieved through existing institutions and structures. That should be done with a view to reducing costs to developing countries, building capacity and fostering the transfer of knowledge and technology to developing countries.

169. The view was expressed that UNEP should focus its attention under subprogramme 4, Technology, industry and economics, on multilateral processes, and Member States should be urged to comply with the agreements. The view was also expressed that the multilateral process on climate change needed to be strengthened.

170. The advocacy of environmentally friendly attitudes reflected in expected accomplishment (b) of subprogramme 7, Communications and public information, was commended, especially since future generations should be enabled to do a better job of protecting the environment than past generations had.

Conclusions and recommendations

171. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 on programme 11 (see A/61/125).**

172. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 11, Environment, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Throughout the programme, replace the words "poverty reduction" with the words "poverty eradication".

Overall orientation

Paragraph 11.9

In the first sentence, after the words "subregional, national and local levels", insert the words "in accordance with the relevant mandates".

Subprogramme 1
Environmental assessment and early warning

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective, replace the words "the general public" with the words "to inform civil society".

Strategy

Paragraph 11.11

In subparagraph (b), after the words "the scientific base of UNEP, including", insert the words "the possibility of".

Subprogramme 2
Policy development and law

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Redesignate expected accomplishment (a) as (g).

Redesignate accomplishment (b) as (a) and revise it to read: "(a) Enhanced capacity of Member States to incorporate cross-sectoral environmental issues and relevant institutionally agreed goals into policies, strategies and planning processes aimed at sustainable development".

Add a new accomplishment (b) to read: "(b) Enhanced capacity of relevant stakeholders to facilitate the incorporation of cross-sectoral environmental issues and relevant institutionally agreed goals into policies, strategies and planning processes aimed at sustainable development".

Revise accomplishment (e) to read: "(e) Strengthened capacity of Member States for enhancing implementation of, compliance with and enforcement of environmental law".

Revise accomplishment (f) to read: "(f) Strengthened capacity of relevant institutions and stakeholders to facilitate implementation of and compliance with environmental law".

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicators of achievement (a) (i) and (a) (iii) as (g) (i) and (g) (ii).

Delete indicator (a) (ii).

Redesignate indicator of achievement (b) as (a) and revise it to read as follows: "Increased number of initiatives by Member States to incorporate cross-sectoral environmental issues in national policies, strategies and development planning processes".

Insert a new indicator (b) to read: "(b) Increased number of initiatives by stakeholders to facilitate the incorporation of cross-sectoral environmental issues in national policies, strategies and development planning processes".

Revise indicator (e) to read: "(e) Increased number of initiatives reported by Member States on the status of enforcement of domestic environmental laws and compliance with international environmental treaties and agreements".

Revise indicator (f) to read: "(f) Increased number of initiatives reported by relevant institutions and stakeholders on the status of compliance with international environmental treaties and agreements".

Subprogramme 3
Policy implementation

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (b) (ii), before the word "initiatives", insert the words "national and local".

Subprogramme 4
Technology, industry and economics

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (i), after the word "public", insert the words "and private".

Subprogramme 6
Environmental conventions

Objective of the Organization

Replace the word "strengthen" with the word "support".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), insert the words "support for" after the word "Enhanced".

Programme 12
Human settlements

173. At its 14th meeting, on 24 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 12)).

174. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

175. Support was expressed for programme 12 and the work programme was commended.

176. The importance was emphasized of the work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in addressing rapid urbanization, slum formation and urban poverty, especially in Africa, where the urban population was growing rapidly. It was noted that the 2005 World Summit Outcome recognized the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading.

177. The United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its slum upgrading facility, and the innovative creation of an international funding mechanism to help mobilize capital were supported. UN-Habitat efforts in working closely with the African Union in establishing the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the relevant Millennium Development Goals were commended. Support was expressed for the activities aimed at promoting socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns in realizing the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda and the relevant goals of the Millennium Declaration.

178. The view was expressed that coordination and cooperation among partners in the field should be strengthened in small developing countries where the majority of the populations were without decent housing.

179. As indicated in paragraph 12.8, it was noted that the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, at its twenty-first session, scheduled in April 2007, was expected to approve the medium-term strategic and institutional plan 2008-2013 of the Programme and that changes in programme 12, Human settlements, might be required.

180. Support was expressed for the UN-Habitat work programme under subprogramme 1, Shelter and sustainable human settlements development, in strengthening international cooperation, building capacity and partnerships, promoting land reform, property and housing rights, legislative and regulatory frameworks, urban planning and balanced rural-urban linkages, and in mainstreaming gender throughout its activities to address urban poverty and governance, and for the importance of promoting decentralization and local governance. The view was expressed that in addition to providing housing to the poor, providing such basic services as public transportation, security, energy and drinking water was also necessary. The importance of the global campaigns for mobilizing support and raising awareness about the need to ensure the provision of adequate shelter for the poor was stressed. The view was also expressed that other vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, should be included as active participants and beneficiaries of the efforts mentioned in the last sentence of paragraph 12.11. The important role of South-South cooperation in the dissemination of best practices, and closer coordination and cooperation by development partners in the field were emphasized. It was also mentioned that migration should be addressed and technical cooperation should be pursued to address slum-dwellers and urbanization.

181. The importance of subprogramme 2, Monitoring the Habitat Agenda, was emphasized. Support was expressed for strengthening the monitoring of the Habitat Agenda and the reporting functions to facilitate the realization of the targets of the relevant Millennium Development Goals and the target on water and sanitation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. Support was also expressed for the important role played by UN-Habitat in filling critical data gaps and in knowledge management and the dissemination of information on human settlements conditions and trends through the Urban Indicators and Best Practices programme.

182. The view was expressed that more precise indicators of achievement should be formulated under subprogramme 4, Human settlements financing.

Conclusions and recommendations

183. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Shelter and sustainable human settlements development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In accomplishment (a), insert the phrase "vulnerable groups, particularly" before the words "the poor".

Subprogramme 3
Regional and technical cooperation

Strategy

Paragraph 12.16

In the second sentence, replace the words "Women and youth" with the words "Women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities".

Programme 13
International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

184. At its 18th meeting, on 29 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 13)).

185. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

186. General support and appreciation were expressed for the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) carried out through its various subprogrammes. Support was expressed for the proposed biennial programme plan under programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice.

187. Support and appreciation were expressed for the work carried out under the three pillars of the work programme of the Office as set out in paragraph 13.6 of the proposed biennial programme plan. It was observed that it was necessary to strengthen the research and analysis functions of the Office so as to buttress its position as an honest broker during discussions on policy matters.

188. It was emphasized that there was a need to strengthen the legal and practical frameworks against crime, drugs and terrorism. Moreover, the view was expressed that it was vital for Member States to be given adequate technical assistance to ensure the implementation of international instruments, including effective follow-

up and monitoring. The need for the provision of technical assistance with regard to terrorism, which the programme was offering, was stressed.

189. Appreciation was expressed for ongoing regional cooperation efforts, with special reference to Central Asia, where UNODC was facilitating contact between Governments and experts. In that regard, support was expressed for the activities carried out by the regional coordination centre, and the practical results of the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan, held in Moscow in June 2006, were welcomed.

190. With regard to subprogrammes 2, Services for policymaking and treaty adherence, and 3, Technical assistance and advice, the need for closer coordination and cooperation between UNODC and other United Nations bodies was expressed. The importance of effective coordination between the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and UNODC for effective monitoring and compliance by Member States was emphasized. It was also pointed out that under those subprogrammes, no clear reference had been made to cooperation and coordination with other United Nations programmes and agencies, including references to joint projects and activities with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the areas of advocacy and education.

191. The view was expressed that there was a need for continued work on alternative development and that particular attention needed to be paid to the specific issues in transit countries.

192. The view was expressed that some of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further improvement and refinement.

Conclusions and recommendations

193. **The Committee reviewed the programme narrative of section 16, International drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 (see A/60/537) and recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative.**

194. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, of the proposed biennial programme plan subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 13.3

Delete paragraph 13.3 and renumber the successive paragraphs.

Old paragraph 13.4

Revise old paragraph 13.4 to read:

"13.3 The General Assembly, in its 2005 World Summit Outcome, clearly recognized organized crime and terrorism among the major security concerns. This has articulated clearly the strategic position of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime within the general nexus of development, security and human rights".

Old paragraph 13.5

Delete sub-item (g).

Subprogramme 3
Technical assistance and advice

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment (e) to read: "(e) Enhanced capacity of transit countries in their fight against illicit drug trafficking".

Indicators of achievement

Revise indicator of achievement (b) (iii) to read: "(iii) Increased assistance to national HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes for drug users and to such programmes in prisons and for potential and actual victims of human trafficking".

Add a new indicator (b) (iv) to read:

"(iv) Increased assistance to more countries for the implementation of effective national action-oriented demand reduction strategies in order to achieve measurable results in the reduction of drug abuse".

Redesignate indicator (c) as (c) (i) and add new indicators (c) (ii) and (iii) to read:

"(ii) Increased assistance to more countries for the implementation of effective sustainable illicit crop elimination strategies";

"(iii) Increased assistance to more countries for the implementation of action-oriented programmes aimed at achieving measurable results in their fight against illicit drug trafficking".

Redesignate indicator (d) as (d) (i) and revise it to read:

"(i) Increased access of affected countries to advisory services and increased international assistance to affected countries to provide them with financial and technical assistance for alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, and the implementation of a sustainable livelihood".

Under indicator (d), add a new indicator (ii) to read: "(ii) Increased number of concerned countries assisted in providing alternative development assistance to farmers in need".

Add a new indicator (e) to read: "(e) Increased assistance to transit countries, upon request, to address their special needs in fighting against illicit drug trafficking".

Legislative mandates

Add the following Security Council resolution:

1624 (2005) Threats to international peace and security

Programme 14
Economic and social development in Africa

195. At its 11th meeting, on 23 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 14)).

196. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

197. Appreciation was expressed for the repositioning of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) so as to better respond to Africa's emerging challenges and the consequential revisions that had been made to programme 14. Support was expressed for the two pillars of promoting regional integration in support of the African Union vision and priorities and meeting Africa's special needs and emerging global challenges outlined in paragraph 14.7 of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 for programme 14. The view was also expressed that considering the Committee's consistent call on programme managers to review their programmes, the 2008-2009 biennial programme plan for programme 14 was a good example of the usefulness of such an exercise.

198. It was generally noted that the 2008-2009 strategic framework for programme 14 had successfully emphasized the assistance the Commission would continue to provide to African countries in formulating and implementing policies and programmes that would lead to sustainable economic growth, social development and poverty reduction.

199. The Committee welcomed the progress made by ECA to align the overall objective of its programme and various subprogrammes with the goals and priorities of NEPAD and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and in the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. While encouraging ECA, the view was also expressed that the priorities of the New Partnership should be given greater emphasis in the programme.

200. Support was also expressed for the focus on poverty reduction strategies and efforts to integrate the targets of the Millennium Declaration into national development programmes under the leadership of national Governments.

201. The efforts of ECA to strengthen partnerships with the African Union and African Development Bank through strengthened collaboration and the revived joint secretariat to promote joint programming of activities was commended.

202. Support was expressed for the important role performed by the subregional offices of ECA in operationalizing the analytical and normative work of the Commission at the subregional and national levels. In particular, the view was expressed that the role of subregional offices in the work of ECA should be further strengthened, as the successful attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and the objectives of the New Partnership depended on the manner in which the various subregional organizations were able to implement the programmes on the subregional and national levels. The Committee noted that the comprehensive plan

of action to strengthen the regional offices of ECA was being finalized for its submission to the General Assembly.

203. Support was expressed for the enhancement of macroeconomic and sectoral policy analysis, international trade and finance under subprogramme 1, Facilitating economic and social policy analysis. A query was raised on the ECA strategy to combat the effects of globalization.

204. The view was expressed that additional indicators of achievement could be included under subprogramme 2, Fostering sustainable development, to measure the Commission's contribution to increases in the number of agriculture activities, strategies for addressing natural resources degradation or measuring poverty reduction growth in the countries of the region. Support was expressed for the focus of subprogramme 2 on agricultural transformation and promotion of diversification, while clarification was sought on whether the critical issue of food security in Africa should be highlighted in the subprogramme.

205. Support was expressed for the focus of subprogramme 3, Strengthening development management, on the improvement of good governance practices to ensure participation in the development and governance processes, and consolidation of the foundations for sustainable development. The view was expressed that great importance was attached to the African Peer Review Mechanism of the New Partnership, and the efforts of the Commission in its support was commended. The view was expressed that an indicator of achievement should be formulated to report on the increase in training and technical assistance rendered under the subprogramme to Member States of the region.

206. Support was expressed for the amendments to subprogramme 4, Harnessing information for development, as they addressed some comments made at the forty-fourth session of the Committee. The view was expressed that great importance was attached to the efforts to address the digital divide and activities by the Commission in support of the African Information Society, the implementation of the Tunis Commitment and Agenda and the emphasis on science and technology policies. The view was expressed that a useful aspect of the strategy of subprogramme 4 would be incorporation of partner agencies as well as information on cooperation at the regional and global levels. A further view was expressed that the communication strategy of ECA should be included under subprogramme 4. The view was also expressed that an indicator of achievement should be formulated to report on the number of countries that had gained capacity for the application of information and communication technologies in key social sectors, such as health and poverty reduction.

207. The view was expressed that emphasis should be placed on the development of exports and infrastructure under subprogramme 5, Promoting trade and regional integration. A query was raised as to the means available to ECA to measure sustainable development and sustained economic growth.

208. Support was expressed for the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in national development policies and programmes, under subprogramme 6, Promoting the advancement of women. The view was expressed that the empowerment of women and the improvement of their living conditions were critical for Africa's success. The views were expressed that new indicators of achievement could be included under subprogramme 6 to report on such topics as the number of women in

political processes, illiteracy among young girls or improvement in their standard of living.

209. Support was expressed for the integration efforts at the subregional level under subprogramme 7, Supporting subregional activities for development, while the view was expressed that it was not consistent with the strategy proposed. The view was expressed that the success of the New Partnership was linked to successful integration of the regional economic communities and the extent to which the regional economic communities were able to translate the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership into concrete projects at the country level.

210. The inclusion of two new subprogrammes in programme 14, subprogrammes 9, Statistics, and 10, Social development, that would be overseen by the African Centre for Statistics and the newly established African Centre for Gender and Social Development, respectively, was commended. The view was expressed that the establishment of subprogramme 9, Statistics, was quite important, as it was useful to monitor and evaluate economic management in order to take corrective measures, in particular since most African countries were not on target in meeting the internationally agreed development goals.

Conclusions and recommendations

211. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 of programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/61/125).**

212. **The Committee commended ECA for reviewing programme 14 following the call of the Committee for programme management to review their programmes. The Committee welcomed the assistance the Commission would continue to provide to African countries in formulating and implementing policies and programmes that would lead to sustained economic development and poverty eradication in alignment with the objectives of NEPAD and other international agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.**

213. **The Committee stressed the importance of integrating a communication dimension into the different subprogrammes of ECA, with a view to increasing the awareness and support of all sectors of society, including the private sector and civil society, with regard to Africa's development challenges. In that respect, the Committee requested ECA to provide leadership and assistance to its member States, so as to improve national capacity to fashion and implement effective communication strategies.**

214. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed biennial programme plan.**

Programme 15
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

215. At its 12th meeting, on 23 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 15)).

216. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

217. Support was expressed for the proposed strategic framework of the programme.

218. Appreciation was expressed for the work carried out by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the Asia and the Pacific region. In that connection, and in more general terms, it was observed that the regional commissions were important instruments entrusted with tasks related to development in their respective regions. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the need for regional commissions remained high and that they had demonstrated the ability to adapt to ever-changing atmospheres and circumstances while carrying out the important task of implementing the Millennium Development Goals across a vast geographical area. It was also observed that the role of ESCAP had become crucial in promoting economic and social development in the region by fostering cooperation among its members and producing catalytic synergies in the quest for a better future.

219. It was observed that despite the economic prosperity and dynamism of parts of the region, those achievements concealed the destitution of the 680 million people who represented two thirds of the world's poor. It was noted that the region was frequently affected by natural disasters, which threatened efforts towards economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development. It was pointed out that, for all those reasons, priority attention should continue to be accorded to the work of ESCAP.

220. The view was expressed that the Commission's three thematic priorities were important to the region and appreciation and support were expressed for maintaining the same focus for the period 2008-2009.

221. Progress in the areas of development and trade in the Asia and the Pacific region was acknowledged with satisfaction. Furthermore, the Commission's new emphasis in responding to the impact of natural disasters, communicable diseases and other issues affecting people and infrastructure in the region was welcomed. It was emphasized that ESCAP had made great efforts in responding to the emerging needs of the people of the regions affected by the impact of those events.

222. It was pointed out that Asia and the Pacific suffered from, inter alia, poverty, lack of investments, natural disasters and drug trafficking and that the ESCAP subprogrammes needed to address those issues and to adapt them to the current situation in the region.

223. The importance of ensuring the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals under subprogramme 1, Poverty and development, was

emphasized, and further references to capacity-building for the formulation and implementation of policies as part of the indicators of achievement would be desirable. It was further suggested that the strategy of the subprogramme could include a reference to the decision reached at the sixty-second session of the Commission to formulate a road map for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the Asia and the Pacific region at its sixty-third session, in 2007. The road map would establish concrete steps for cooperation in the region geared towards achieving the Goals. It was also emphasized that the subprogramme should take women into consideration, as part of a strategy to undertake activities related to development and poverty eradication. It was noted that access to services was regarded as a crucial element to the attainment of the objective of the subprogramme.

224. It was also observed, with regard to subprogramme 3, Development of Pacific island countries and territories, that one particular feature of the sixty-second session of the Commission, held in Jakarta in April 2006, was the first ever meeting of the Pacific Leaders ESCAP special session. It was further observed that that important occasion would indeed strengthen the Asia-Pacific partnership in such areas as tourism, information and communication technology, trade statistics and the environment. The view was expressed that ESCAP should include a reference to the follow-up activities of the special session in the strategic framework.

225. It was also noted, with regard to subprogramme 5, Transport and tourism, that the strategic framework could incorporate the latest development on intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network, which was open for signature by ESCAP members and would be adopted in November 2006 during the ministerial conference on transport and subsequently at the United Nations.

226. ESCAP efforts to improve national capacities for the delivery of equitable social services and integration of social dimensions into the development process was appreciated and it was pointed out that subprogramme 8, Social development, including persistent and emerging issues, should accord more attention to disability issues in the region. The need to strengthen ESCAP work and cooperation with other agencies and local governments as part of the subprogramme was observed.

227. The view was expressed that proposals for the implementation of the recommendations of the recently completed external evaluation of ESCAP would be welcomed, and that ESCAP could further emphasize the attention to cross-cutting issues in the overall orientation of the strategic framework. The need for close cooperation with other agencies and entities was again underscored.

228. Support was also expressed for the proposed revisions to the proposed biennial programme plan of programme 15, based on the review of the plan at the special session of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives of ESCAP on 23 June 2006, including references to the rights-based approach.

229. The representative of the Secretary-General, in response to questions raised, indicated that attention would be given to qualitative and quantitative performance measures during the formulation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

Conclusions and recommendations

230. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 15.11

Replace the paragraph in its entirety with paragraph 15.9 of document A/59/6/Rev.1, to read:

"15.11 As a matter of priority, the gender dimension and the rights-based as well as development-based approaches for persons with disabilities will be mainstreamed across relevant subprogrammes. Particular attention will be given to achieving in a progressive manner, in diverse development sectors, the rights of vulnerable groups, including women, youth, people with disabilities, older persons and people living with HIV/AIDS, especially among the poor."

Subprogramme 1
Poverty and development

Strategy

Paragraph 15.15

In the third sentence, remove the parentheses around the words "including the right to access services".

Subprogramme 2
Statistics

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a), after the words "statistical system", insert the words "benefiting from ESCAP and Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific assistance".

Subprogramme 3
Development of Pacific island countries and territories

Strategy

Paragraph 15.18

At end of the first sentence, add the words "with cooperation from other ESCAP divisions."

Subprogramme 4
Trade and investment

Indicators of achievement

Delete the word "(stakeholders)" from indicators of achievement (a) (ii), (b) (i), (c) and (d).

In indicators of achievement (a) (ii), (b) (i), (c) and (d), after the word "officials", add the words "and others".

Strategy

Paragraph 15.20

After paragraph 15.20, add the following paragraphs and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly:

"15.21 ESCAP will collaborate at the regional, subregional and national levels and with the agencies within the United Nations system, as well as with other bilateral and multilateral agencies.

"15.22 In addition, further collaboration will be undertaken with relevant regional, subregional and national intergovernmental bodies, as well as with private sector and civil society organizations and networks within Asia and the Pacific."

Old paragraph 15.21

In the last sentence, after the words "priority to", insert the words "developing countries, including".

Subprogramme 5
Transport and tourism

Old paragraph 15.23

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence:

"The subprogramme will accord priority to developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing States."

Subprogramme 6
Environment and sustainable development

Replace in its entirety with the following:

Subprogramme 6
Environment and sustainable development

Objective of the Organization: to improve the environmental sustainability of economic and social development, and natural resources management, in line with internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved national capacity to develop and implement policies and programmes that contribute to green growth	(a) Increased percentage of participants in ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills in applying a green growth approach
(b) Increased national capacity to develop and apply socio-economic policy instruments to improve environmental management and performance	(b) Increased percentage of participants in ESCAP activities who indicate that they can use or have used knowledge and skills in applying socio-economic policy instruments to improve environmental management and performance
(c) Enhanced national capacity to identify effective policies and programmes for efficient and cleaner production, management and use of energy resources on the national, subregional and regional levels	(c) Increased number of measures taken by policymakers and planners in promoting energy security, improving energy efficiency and supporting subregional and regional cooperation in energy sector development
(d) Increased national capacity in formulating and implementing effective sustainable development policies and strategies on management of water resources and natural disasters, in particular in disaster-prone countries, in terms of preparedness, response and recovery	(d) Increased number of measures taken that reflect ESCAP-promoted initiatives on management of water resources and natural disasters, in particular increased number of measures in disaster-prone countries to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact

Strategy

15.24 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Environment and Sustainable Development Division. The strategic direction of the subprogramme derives mainly from the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the outcomes of the other related major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Shanghai Declaration, the outcome of the fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, 2005, and other relevant mandates.

15.24 (bis) The subprogramme will focus on using innovative and pragmatic approaches in promoting equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth. In the area of energy, the subprogramme will promote energy security, improve energy efficiency, enhance utilization of new and renewable sources of energy and assist in further development of regional and subregional energy

cooperation. In the area of water resources, the subprogramme will continue to concentrate on capacity-building in strategic planning to promote integrated water resources management, improved access to safe drinking water and water conservation. In the area of the environment, the subprogramme will focus on improving the environmental performance of major stakeholders and promoting effective regional and subregional collaboration in environmental protection. Regional cooperation will be strengthened for natural disaster management. The strategic focus will be on assisting members and associate members to develop and apply gender-responsive policies and programmes, where appropriate, in particular towards attaining Millennium Development Goals 1 and 7. It will comprise closely interrelated sectoral projects and interdisciplinary activities implemented jointly with other divisions within the thematic areas of managing globalization, reducing poverty and addressing emerging social issues. The subprogramme will promote wider participation of all stakeholders, including civil society, in regional and national decision-making processes relating to sustainable development. The subprogramme will accord priority to developing countries, including the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing States. It will also seek to collaborate with other United Nations agencies and international organizations in the development of tools and networks to support the foregoing projects and interdisciplinary activities.

Subprogramme 7
Information, communication and space technology

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicators (c) (i) and (c) (ii) with the following indicator:

"(c) Percentage of policymakers and officials benefiting from activities of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development who indicate that their level of competency has increased in the use of information and communication technology for socio-economic development".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (d), after the words "transfer mechanisms", insert the words "supported by the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology".

Old paragraph 15.26

In the final sentence, after the words "the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization", insert the words "the Asian-Pacific Telecommunity".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence:

"The subprogramme will accord priority to developing countries, including the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing States."

Subprogramme 8
Social development, including persistent and emerging issues

Strategy

Old paragraph 15.28

Replace the words "emphasizing a rights-based approach" with the words "emphasizing the rights-based as well as development-based approaches for persons with disabilities".

Legislative mandates

Add subprogramme 4 to the subprogrammes in parentheses under resolutions 55/279 and 60/228, in the first grouping of General Assembly resolutions.

Programme 16
Economic development in Europe

231. At its 12th meeting, on 23 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 16)).

232. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

233. Support was expressed for the programme. The support provided to countries in the region with economies in transition, as well as the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, were noted with appreciation. In that context, it was emphasized that the strategy of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) should further the strengthening of the national capacity of the countries with economies in transition and the outreach towards the business and non-governmental organization communities in those countries.

234. The view was expressed that the regional commissions were important instruments entrusted with tasks related to development in their respective regions. The view was also expressed that the need for regional commissions remained great and that the commissions had demonstrated the ability to adapt to ever-changing circumstances while carrying out the important task of implementing the Millennium Development Goals across a vast geographical area.

235. Appreciation was also expressed for the reform carried out by ECE in 2005, based on recommendations on the role, mandate and functions of the Commission reflected in a report on the state of ECE, which had placed ECE on a new level. The reform was welcomed, in particular given the emphasis it placed on better interaction and interface with other international organizations active in the region. It was pointed out that the ECE reform was regarded as part of the overall reform of the United Nations. Support was also expressed for the changes made in the governance structure of ECE. The need to further strengthen accountability and transparency within ECE was recognized and, in that connection, the establishment

of a Programme Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within the Office of the Executive Secretary was welcomed.

236. The view was also expressed that the strategy of subprogramme 1, Environment, should include a reference to cooperation with other entities, such as UNEP and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

237. Appreciation was expressed for the availability of macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics collected and distributed to countries of the region. Furthermore, the strategy of the programme to provide public access to all meeting documents, work programmes and statistical standards and recommendations to provide the basis for transparency and accountability was commended.

238. The establishment of subprogramme 4, Economic cooperation and integration, was welcomed. It was pointed out that the subprogramme was designed to provide much-needed financial assistance to countries with economies in transition. The view was further expressed that it would be relevant to have an indicator of achievement related to the number of countries expressing satisfaction with the advice rendered.

239. The view was expressed that for subprogramme 5, Sustainable energy, more prominence should have been given to furthering participation of all relevant stakeholders.

240. The need to continue to ensure international regional cooperation as part of the strategy of subprogramme 7, Timber and forestry, was emphasized.

241. The view was expressed concerning subprogramme 8, Housing, land management and population, that strengthening the local capacity was essential in developing housing and urban governance. The view was also expressed that consideration should be given to including the issue of migration in the activities of the subprogramme.

242. The view was expressed that ECE currently had no standardized evaluation system in place for its subprogrammes, and it was requested that an evaluation mechanism be implemented and streamlined across all subprogrammes.

243. The representative of the Secretary-General, in his response to the comments made by the Committee, indicated that the evaluation of all subprogrammes was currently conducted according to instructions and guidelines provided by the Office of Internal Oversight Services and that ECE was in the process of issuing an evaluation guide in response to a decision of the Commission to have biennial evaluations conducted by all ECE sectoral committees.

Conclusions and recommendations

244. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Indicators of achievement

To indicator (a), add new indicator (iii) to read: "(iii) Increased number of actions taken in order to promote public access to environmental information".

Subprogramme 4
Economic cooperation and integration

Indicators of achievement

In indicators (a) and (c) (i), delete the word "increased" at the beginning of the indicator.

Redesignate indicator (a) as (a) (i) and add a new indicator (a) (ii) to read: "(ii) Number of countries indicating satisfaction with training events".

245. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly approve the proposed revisions to programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007 (see A/61/125).**

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

246. At its 12th meeting, on 23 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 17)).

247. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

248. Full support was expressed for programme 17 and all its subprogrammes. The work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) as a centre of excellence was also commended. It was observed that ECLAC played a key role in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration. The important role of ECLAC in eradicating poverty and hunger, enhancing regional integration and social cohesion and strengthening gender mainstreaming in public policies was also emphasized. It was noted that the role and work of the Commission in mobilizing public opinion and in supporting the countries of the region in their efforts to attain the Millennium Declaration Goals should be strengthened.

249. The view was expressed that, in implementing the thematic priorities of the Commission, the development of small island developing States in the Caribbean region should be brought into sharper focus, in accordance with the Mauritius

Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

250. It was observed that the Commission, while promoting regional integration and cooperation, also provided valuable analytical, normative and operational support. The very positive role of the regular programme of technical cooperation as an operational component of the ECLAC subprogrammes was stressed. The importance of ECLAC training programmes, especially for promoting employment and the development of human capital in the region, was emphasized. The view was expressed that the links between the sustainable development of Caribbean small island developing States and their training requirements under subprogrammes 8 and 12 should be elaborated on further.

251. Regarding subprogramme 1, Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation, strategies designed for strengthening the capacities of the countries of the region in trade negotiations were welcomed.

252. It was observed that under subprogramme 2, Production and innovation, more emphasis should be placed on joint work with other entities, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the importance of knowledge-based instruments and assets should be stressed.

253. It was noted that under subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, indicator of achievement (a) on increased percentage of users should specifically refer to competent authorities.

254. The view was expressed that under subprogramme 4, Social development and equity, the work on the eradication of poverty and reduction of social inequalities should be expedited and strengthened. It was also stressed that the eradication of poverty was the joint responsibility of all partners.

255. The strategy of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment under subprogramme 5, Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development, was supported. It was observed, in that regard, that gender equality was a catalyst for social change.

256. As to subprogramme 6, Population and development, satisfaction was expressed with highlighting the migration issues in the strategy part.

257. The view was expressed that reference to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States should be included in the strategy of subprogramme 8, Sustainable development and human settlements.

258. It was observed that under subprogramme 9, Natural resources and infrastructure, more emphasis should be placed on training in the sustainable use of energy and renewable energy sources.

259. The view was expressed that the formulation of expected accomplishments under subprogramme 12, Subregional activities in the Caribbean, did not adequately address the requirements of the subregion and should be strengthened. It was also observed that there was a dire need to strengthen national capacities in disaster preparedness and prevention. The importance of using experience gained by other entities in the area of disaster preparedness was stressed.

Conclusions and recommendations

260. The Committee noted with appreciation the strategic framework for ECLAC under programme 17, which took into consideration the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, and highlighted the Commission's role in formulating appropriate measures to promote the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean and the greater integration of the region in the global economy. In that context, the Committee recognized the importance of the regional perspective in implementing those goals and emphasized the need to strengthen the programmes and activities conducted by the Commission's subregional and country offices seeking to achieve sustainable, inclusive and equitable development in the region.

261. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

Overall orientation

Paragraph 17.3

At the end of the second sentence, add the words "and the problems of the current international economic order".

In the fourth sentence, after the word "vulnerabilities", replace the words "are intimately related to" with the words "represent essential causes of".

Subprogrammes 1, 3, 4, 5 and 12

In the second sentence of paragraphs 17.6, 17.9, 17.11, 17.13 and 17.26, replace the words "the Millennium Declaration" with "the United Nations major conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including those set forth in the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome".

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In accomplishment (a), replace the words "both the Millennium Declaration and the regional consensuses" with "the United Nations major conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including those set forth in the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the relevant regional consensus".

Subprogramme 8
Sustainable development and human settlements

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of accomplishment (b), after the words "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change", add "and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

Subprogramme 12
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

Paragraph 17.26

In the last sentence, after the words "Common Market," insert the words "the Regional Negotiating Machinery, the Caribbean Development Bank".

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Western Asia

262. At its 13th meeting, on 24 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 18)).

263. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

264. Support was expressed for the programme. It was noted that two subprogrammes had been merged into one for the biennium 2008-2009. However, concern was expressed as to whether all the mandates of the original two subprogrammes would be implemented effectively under the new subprogramme.

265. It was noted that the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) had forged partnerships with some United Nations entities as listed under subprogramme 2, Integrated social policies. Concern was expressed regarding the need for ESCWA to develop tighter cooperation with the regional office of the Economic Commission for Africa in North Africa, in the light of similar language and cultural values in countries in that region.

266. Concern was also expressed with regard to the title of subprogramme 7, Conflict mitigation and development. It was suggested that the title should read "Mitigation of consequences of conflict on development".

267. The view was expressed that the focus of ESCWA was more on activities at the national level, and clarification was sought on the regional aspect of ESCWA activities, especially those related to the management of natural resources.

268. It was stated that none of the ESCWA member countries was a member of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, making adequate participation difficult.

Conclusions and recommendations

269. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraphs 18.1 and 18.2

The paragraphs should be deleted and replaced with the following:

"18.1 The overall orientation of programme 18 is to foster comprehensive, equitable, integrated and sustainable development and economic and social cooperation in the region and to maintain and strengthen economic relations between the member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and other countries of the world. ESCWA is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

"18.2 Policy direction for the programme is provided in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973 and 1985/69 of 26 July 1985, establishing ESCWA and amending the terms of reference to underscore the social functions of the Commission. Further direction is provided in ESCWA resolution 220 (XX) of 27 May 1999, on the adoption, by ESCWA member countries, of the Beirut Declaration, which envisioned an enhanced role for the Commission at the regional level; and, by the recommendation of the Commission at its twenty-first session (May 2001) that activities focus on a limited number of priorities, on Arab regional integration and on the study of mechanisms that would activate such integration. The internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992, dealing with such matters as trade, sustainable development, social development, finance, and information and communication technologies, provide further policy direction to the programme."

Paragraph 18.3

In the first sentence, after the words "political instability and", add the words "foreign occupation".

Delete the fourth sentence.

Paragraph 18.5

The third sentence should read:

"Women's equal rights and opportunities to economic and political participation should be further encouraged, although the region achieved general success in making the secondary and tertiary education systems far more accessible to both sexes equally."

Paragraph 18.6

In the last sentence, delete the word "conflict" and replace it with "foreign occupation".

Paragraph 18.7

In the first sentence, after the words "social integration", add "among its member countries".

In the second sentence, after the words "regional integration", add "between member countries".

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "Attention should be focused on Arab regional integration and the study of mechanisms that would activate this integration."

Subprogramme 1
Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under accomplishment (c), delete the words "regional and interregional".

Add the following new expected accomplishment of the Secretariat:

"(d) Increased use by member countries of tools and techniques to enhance productivity and competitiveness in the production sectors".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (ii), delete the words "regional and interregional".

Add the following new indicator of achievement:

"(d) Number of countries adopting innovative technology and management initiatives to enhance competitiveness and more sustainable and efficient use of such technology".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.13

In the third sentence, delete the word "region" and replace it with the word "Commission".

In the third sentence, delete the word "regional" and after the word "cooperation", add the words "among its member States".

Subprogramme 2
Integrated social policies

Objective of the Organization

Delete the words "in a globalized environment" and replace them with "that is region-specific and culturally sensitive".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under accomplishment (a), after the words "to promote and formulate integrated social development policies", add "that are region-specific and culturally sensitive".

Under accomplishment (b), delete the words "address the specific needs of vulnerable groups, including" and add the words "focus on".

Indicators of achievement

Under indicator of achievement (a) (i), add in the last sentence "that are region-specific and culturally sensitive".

Under indicator of achievement (b), delete the words "the needs of vulnerable groups" and replace them with "women, youth and persons with disabilities".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.17

In the first sentence, after the words "including appropriate population and migration policies and national urban policies and policies that", delete the words "target vulnerable groups, particularly the youth" and add "focus on women, youth and persons with disabilities".

Paragraph 18.18

After the words "on intersectoral social development programmes and projects", delete "that address the specific needs of vulnerable groups, such as" and add "with particular regard to poverty and unemployment reduction, with a focus on youth, women and persons with disabilities".

Subprogramme 3
Economic development and integration

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add two new expected accomplishments as follows:

"(d) Greater participation in the multilateral trading system.

"(e) Increased facilitation of transboundary flows of goods, services, persons and capital among member countries".

Indicators of achievement

Add two new indicators of achievement as follows:

"(d) Increased number of rules, regulations and policies adopted by member countries in conformity with World Trade Organization provisions and regional agreements".

"(e) Number of countries accepting and/or adopting harmonization schemes proposed by ESCWA in order to facilitate transboundary flows of goods, persons and capital".

Strategy

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 18.25 to read:

"18.26 Despite the various efforts made towards regional integration among member States in the 1950s, the basic requirements for achieving economic integration have not been established. In a world moving increasingly towards the establishment of large economic blocs, regional economic integration becomes a matter of vital importance. Two major impediments to regional and international integration and increased competitiveness are backwardness of the transport sector and obstacles and barriers to participation in the multilateral trading system."

Renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Add a new paragraph after old paragraph 18.27 to read:

"18.29 Emphasis will also be placed on strengthening the negotiation skills of member States in respect of the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiation process, continuing to increase their understanding of the opportunities and challenges presented by WTO as well as regional integration agreements, defining obstacles and barriers to participation in the multilateral trading system and organizing awareness drives on the role of the Arab free-trade area and other bilateral agreements. Support will be provided in enhancing regional development by analysing existing credit and investment policies and formulating specific recommendations for the improvement of existing investment laws, regulations and incentives in order to increase significantly the attractiveness of member countries to domestic and foreign investors, with particular emphasis on interregional capital flows and the return of capital invested outside the region."

Renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 4
Information and communication technology for regional integration

Objective of the Organization

Before the words "build an inclusive," add the words "narrow the digital divide and to"

Strategy

Add a new paragraph before old paragraph 18.29 to read as follows:

"Western Asia suffers from a widening digital divide: at the internal level, between Gulf and other member countries, on the one hand, and between cities and rural areas, on the other; and externally, between the region and other regions of the world. Currently, information and communication technology indicators for the region as a whole are lower than world averages. At the same time, the region has development potential that needs to be harnessed in building the information society, particularly in terms of the common language and cultural heritage. Greater efforts need to be deployed in increasing literacy and education

levels and tapping human resources and talents, especially among women and the growing youth population."

Renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Programme 19
Human rights

270. At its 16th meeting, on 28 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 19)).

271. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

272. Support was expressed for the proposed biennial programme plan of programme 19, Human rights. Support was also expressed for the implementation of the human rights reform called for in the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the view was expressed that the High Commissioner's plan of action was reflected in the proposed biennial programme plan of 2008-2009, which would enable the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to effectively carry out its mandate. Appreciation was expressed for the activities carried out under the programme in supporting States in the realization of human rights. The close cooperation with Governments in implementing the programme was noted; however, the view was expressed that efforts were not entirely sufficient and many key issues remained unresolved.

273. The view was expressed that some aspects of the 2008-2009 biennial programme plan did not account for some important aspects of the current and prior biennial programme plans, such as some objectives which appeared to deviate from prior objectives. The view was also expressed that legislative mandates should guide the formulation of the biennial programme plan and, as such, some aspects of the plan not endorsed by intergovernmental bodies should not constitute part of the plan.

274. Questions were raised regarding the geographical distribution of OHCHR staff, as referred to in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, and follow-up action to the management review of OHCHR, contained in document A/61/115. Information was requested on the impact of the management review on the recruitment policies and the composition of the staff.

275. The view was expressed that most of the indicators of achievement of programme 19 were based on quantitative measures, but that they should include qualitative measures as well. The view was also expressed that several indicators of achievement appeared to measure the activities of Member States, but the basic task at hand was to gauge the work of OHCHR and the assistance the Office provided to Member States.

276. The view was expressed that, in general, subprogramme 1 covered the necessary functions of OHCHR to advance further integration of human rights, in particular at the country level. Support was expressed for part A, Human rights

mainstreaming, and a call was made to focus on field activities. However, the view was expressed that the fact that various bodies of the United Nations system had specific mandates related to part A was not reflected, and support for activities related to racism and racial discrimination was not sufficiently addressed under part C, Research and analysis. The view was expressed that Member States should be provided briefings regularly on the training referred to in paragraph 19.7 (d). The view was also expressed that certain elements of the subprogramme were subject to the outcome of intergovernmental consultations, such as those related to the reform of the human rights bodies. Their inclusion of those elements in the plan at the current stage was thus questionable.

277. The view was expressed that subprogramme 1, part B, Right to development, must be strengthened and viewed as an integral part of the human rights programme. However, opposition was also expressed to the narratives of that part of the subprogramme as presented. Support was expressed for the multidimensional strategy that would be pursued under part B.

278. A query was raised as to the specific types of activities planned under subprogramme 1, part C, Research and analysis. The view was expressed that the activities of the subprogramme would enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations in the area of human rights. The inclusion of gender issues in the subprogramme was welcomed, while the view was expressed that other cross-cutting issues, such as regional issues, should also be reflected.

279. The view was expressed that it was fundamental to support the Human Rights Council, in particular in light of the review and, where necessary, improvement and rationalization of all mandates, mechanisms, functions and responsibilities of the former Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251. Support was expressed for subprogramme 2, supporting human rights bodies and organs, and for strengthening it. A query was raised as to how the goals of subprogramme 2 would be accomplished.

280. The view was expressed that expected accomplishment (e) of subprogramme 2 appeared confusing.

281. Support was expressed for the joint initiatives undertaken under subprogramme 3, advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities, by the United Nations and Member States in improving their capacities to implement international human rights standards. The view was expressed that fact-finding activities should be carried out in a balanced manner. The view was also expressed that some of the indicators of achievement were difficult to quantify. The view was further expressed that certain elements of subprogrammes 3 and 4 had not been approved at the intergovernmental level.

282. The contribution of subprogramme 4, support for human rights fact-finding procedures, to the special procedures mechanism was commended. The view was expressed that the mechanism was particularly significant to the deliberations of the universal periodic review mechanism, as the quality and use of documents of the special procedures was significant to that process also. A query was raised on the methods to be used to close gaps in the implementation of international human rights standards referred to in expected accomplishment (a) of subprogramme 4, as gaps were likely to threaten development. Support was expressed for the initiatives of the fact-finding procedures.

283. The Committee emphasized that the OHCHR plan of action referred to under section 23 should be in accordance with the legislative mandates adopted in the relevant intergovernmental bodies. It recommended that the plan of action should be considered by the relevant legislative bodies for its realignment with the legislative mandates prior to its implementation.

284. The Committee stressed that the report of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 74 of document A/60/537 did not constitute the legislative mandate as regards the role of OHCHR in conflict prevention efforts.

285. Although the Committee had an exchange of views, there was not sufficient time to review the following amendments proposed to the revised estimates relating to the 2005 World Summit Outcome (programme narratives, section 23, Human rights, for the biennium 2006-2007) contained in document A/60/537.

Paragraph 62

At end of the second sentence, insert the words "and that they should be treated in fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis".

In the third sentence, after the words "actively protect", insert the words "and promote".

At the end of the third sentence, insert the words "recognizing that they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing".

Paragraph 63

Insert new subparagraph 63 (f) to read:

"In paragraphs 127, 128, 129 and 130, the Assembly reaffirmed its commitments to continue making progress in the advancement of the human rights of the world's indigenous peoples, recognized the need to pay special attention to the human rights of women and children and for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed full enjoyment of their rights without discrimination and noted that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society".

Paragraph 69

In the first sentence, replace the phrase "and serve as a full partner, within the United Nations and with Member States, national institutions, civil society and other interlocutors" with the phrase "by the competent bodies of the United Nations system in the field of human rights and to make recommendations to them with a view to improving the promotion and protection of all human rights".

Paragraph 70

Delete the paragraph and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Old paragraph 71

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"70. Civil society organizations are key partners of the United Nations, particularly in the field of human rights, and are key actors in promoting and protecting human rights at the national level. OHCHR will build stronger ties with civil society and work with it to contribute to long-term human rights achievements"

Old paragraphs 72, 73 and 74

Delete the paragraphs and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 1
Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, research and analysis

Old paragraph 77

Replace the last sentence with the following: "This, in turn, requires a strengthened capacity of OHCHR to develop expertise and make it available to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, to conduct research and policy analysis."

Old paragraph 79

In the first sentence, after the words "to promote", replace the rest of the sentence with the following:

"the advancement of the right to development and the integration and/or inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development into the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and national development plans, programmes and strategies, including poverty eradication strategies"

In the third sentence, after the words "women's human rights", insert the words "which will work in close cooperation with the Division for the Advancement of Women avoiding duplication of activities."

Old paragraphs 80 to 83

Delete the paragraphs and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Outputs

Old paragraph 84

Under paragraph 23.40, delete subparagraphs (b) and (b) (i) to (b) (iii).

Under paragraph 23.42 replace subparagraphs (b) (i) and (b) (ii) with the following:

"(b) (i) Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits: learning packages on promotion of the advancement of the right to development, the integration and/or inclusion of the right to development into developmental activities, national development plans, programmes and strategies, including poverty eradication strategies, the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration as well as on human rights and the right to development; compilations of best practices; awareness-raising tools and kits (e.g., brochures and posters); booklets of frequently asked questions;

"(ii) Promotion of legal instruments: provision of expert advice to Member States, United Nations entities and others on promotion of the advancement of the right to development, the integration and/or inclusion of the right to development into developmental activities, national development plans, programmes and strategies, including poverty eradication strategies, the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration as well as on human rights and the right to development."

Delete subparagraphs 23.44 (b) and (c) (i) and redesignate the subparagraphs.

In old subparagraph 23.44 (c) (iii), after the words "cultural rights and on the", insert the words "promotion and".

Replace old subparagraph 23.44 (d) (i) with the following: "At the end of the subparagraph *add* best practices in promotion and protection of women's rights, including countering all forms of violence against women, strengthening protection of victims of trafficking and awareness-raising".

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights bodies and organs

Outputs

Old paragraphs 88 and 89

Delete the paragraphs and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities

Old paragraph 91

In the first sentence, delete the word "mainly", replace the words "action at the national level" with the words "a coherent national policy" and, at end of the sentence, add the words "at the national level".

In the second sentence, replace the words "monitoring, follow-up" with the words "support, upon request, for national follow-up processes".

Old paragraph 92

Replace the words "around clear, long-term strategies agreed with Governments" with the words "to support, upon their request, Governments' strategies" and, after the word "developed", add the words "as appropriate and in accordance with national legislations".

Old paragraphs 93 to 96

Delete the paragraphs and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 4
Support for human rights fact-finding procedures

Old paragraph 100

Replace paragraph 23.68 (c) with the following: "(c) Provide adequate services and technical support for the intergovernmental meetings aimed at the revision and rationalization of the mandates, functions and responsibilities of the system of special procedures".

Programme support

Paragraph 102

Replace the third sentence with the following: "Similarly, an increased capacity to better promote the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and promptly address gross, massive and systematic violations of human rights will need to be supported by adequate administrative and logistical structures".

Replace the fourth sentence with the following: "To meet current and future recruitment needs and ensure that suitably qualified staff is identified on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and with gender balance, OHCHR will need to develop and maintain rosters of candidates matching its various job profiles".

286. The Committee also did not have sufficient time to review the following amendments proposed to the programme narrative of programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009.

Overall orientation

Paragraph 19.1

Replace the first sentence with the following: "The overarching purpose of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote the universal enjoyment of all human rights for all".

Delete the third sentence.

Replace the phrase "Assembly resolution 48/121 establishing" with "Assembly resolution 48/141 establishing".

At end of the paragraph, replace the words "and 60/1 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome" with the words "and 56/95 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and 57/300 on strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change and 60/1 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome".

Add a new sentence at the end of the paragraph as follows: "The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action".

Paragraph 19.2

After the word "complete", insert the words "as appropriate".

Paragraph 19.3

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"19.3 The Office will continue to strive for the universal realization of all human rights for all through the implementation of the Charter's provisions on human rights and of the international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations. The decisions of policymaking organs will guide this effort. Emphasis will be placed on the enhancement of cooperation at the international, regional and national levels, keeping in mind that it will be drawn on the values of the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome document, which call for the promotion of democracy, the strengthening of the rule of law and respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development. Priority will continue to be given to emphasizing the importance of human rights on international and national agendas, upholding the principle of equality and non-discrimination, combating discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion, advancing the rights of children and women, raising awareness of human rights at all levels of education, responding to the needs of the vulnerable for protection and addressing situations of gross and systematic violations of human rights as identified by the Human Rights Council and other relevant United Nations human rights organs."

Paragraph 19.4

Replace the first sentence with the following: "Increased support for human rights implementation will be provided to Member States, at their request, through, inter alia, assistance to national capacity-building, technical cooperation, human rights education and other activities."

In the fourth sentence, after the word "procedures", delete the words "other relevant United Nations organs".

Replace the penultimate sentence with "Particular efforts will be made by Member States to review and, where necessary, improve and rationalize the United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolutions 48/141 and 60/251."

Replace the last sentence with "The programme will strive to meet the essential challenge of ensuring the enjoyment of human rights worldwide."

Paragraph 19.5

Insert the word "reflecting" before the word "measurements". Delete the words "and its partners" at the end of the paragraph.

Subprogramme 1A
Human rights mainstreaming

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective with the following: "to advance the promotion and protection of human rights and to further include human rights and their gender dimension into development, humanitarian and rule of law activities of the United Nations."

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

"(a) Wider inclusion of the promotion and protection of all human rights and their gender dimension into development, humanitarian and rule of law activities across human rights programmes as well as relevant programmes of United Nations departments and/or offices and agencies."

In expected accomplishment (b), delete the words "building and" before the word "strengthening". At the end of expected accomplishment (b), replace the words "systems for human rights protection" with the words "human rights capacities".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following: "(a) Increased number of appropriate and applicable human rights policy guidelines adopted by United Nations system agencies and inter-agency mechanisms".

Replace indicator (b) with the following: "(b) Increased number of projects and activities undertaken by United Nations system agencies and United Nations country teams that include human rights, as appropriate, as part of their development work."

Strategy

Paragraph 19.7

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"19.7 This part of the subprogramme will play a leadership role in pursuing inclusion of all human rights into development, humanitarian and rule of law activities within the United Nations system, mindful of human rights norms and the decisions of policymaking organs. The strategy will focus on:

"(a) Placing human beings at the centre of United Nations programmes and activities in the development and humanitarian areas, thus contributing, inter alia, to the promotion and protection of human rights at all levels;

"(b) Developing methodologies to facilitate the inclusion of all human rights into United Nations policies, programmes and activities for development, including by promoting a rights-based approach to development;

"(c) Contributing to developing the capability of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations country teams, through training, advice and methodological tools to assist Member States, at their request, in enhancing national capacities to promote human rights."

Subprogramme 1B
Right to development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective with the following:

"to advance the promotion and protection of the realization of the right to development and to enhance support from relevant bodies of the United Nations system for this purpose and the most recent resolutions on this matter, including Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/4, second preambular paragraph".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a) delete the words "in global partnerships for development" and add the following at the end of the sentence:

"aimed at the full realization of the right to development, in particular across human rights programmes and the relevant programmes of work of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and major international organizations and forums related to this issue".

In expected accomplishment (b), after the words "and understanding of", add the words "realization of".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following:

"(a) (i) The extent to which the right to development has been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, with a compilation of examples of concrete steps taken in that regard

"(ii) The extent to which the mandates relevant to the right to development given to the Secretariat, including the holding of seminars and workshops, have been fulfilled"

Replace indicator (b) with the following:

"(b) (i) Increased number of activities, analytical papers and information materials relevant to the right to development, in order to advance its full realization, organized and made available by OHCHR within and outside the United Nations

"(ii) The extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contributed to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development".

Strategy

Paragraph 19.8

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"19.8 This part of the subprogramme will pursue a multidimensional strategy for the implementation of the right to development, in cooperation and collaboration with United Nations system agencies, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, with the aim of facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies, as well as other relevant international institutions and organizations and non-governmental organizations. The strategy will focus on".

Add a new subparagraph (a) to read:

"(a) Placing the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies as a legitimate concern and priority for the international community."

Old paragraph 19.8 (a)

At the beginning of the sentence, replace the word "Providing" with the words "Enhancing the". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.8 (b).

Old paragraph 19.8 (b)

Replace the paragraph with the following: "Ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.8 (c).

Old paragraph 19.8 (c)

Insert the word "including" before the words "in global development" and the words "inter alia" after the word "through". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.8 (d).

Old paragraph 19.8 (d)

Replace the paragraph with the following: "Promoting the inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development in technical cooperation assistance to countries, upon request, as well as in national development strategies, such as, inter alia, poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, national Millennium Development Goals strategies and United Nations development frameworks, through close cooperation with Member States and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes".

Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.8 (e).

Insert a new subparagraph 19.8 (f) to read: "(f) Promoting national implementation of the right to development through coordination with countries".

Old paragraph 19.8 (e)

Delete the words "increased engagement at the country level" after the words "including through". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.8 (g).

Add a new subparagraph (f) to read:

"(f) Promoting cooperation at the regional and international levels, setting specific criteria for the assessment of global development partnerships from the perspective of the right to development and establishing an effective evaluation and monitoring mechanism to this end."

Subprogramme 1C
Research and analysis

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective with the following: "to strengthen respect for all human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of human rights issues through research and analysis".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

"(a) Enhanced effectiveness of the United Nations efforts to strengthen respect for the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone, including women, children, persons belonging to minorities, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons affected by HIV/AIDS, migrants, victims of trafficking and victims of involuntary disappearances".

In expected accomplishment (b), delete the words "reduction and combating HIV/AIDS" at the end of the sentence.

In expected accomplishment (c), delete the words "and country" at the end of the sentence.

Delete expected accomplishments (d), (e) and (f).

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b), at the end of the sentence, replace the words "and developing rights-sensitive poverty eradication reduction strategies" with the words "the effective support to the implementation on the Millennium Development Goals".

Delete indicators of achievement (d), (e) and (f).

Strategy

Paragraph 19.9

At the end of the first sentence, delete the words "to support effective engagement with countries and global and national-level partnerships and to provide leadership to meet current human rights challenges".

Delete the second sentence.

Paragraph 19.9 (a)

Revise the paragraph to read:

"(a) Advocacy for the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights by providing support to the established mandates and enhancing substantive and methodological expertise; contributing to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and new forms of discrimination; promoting the rule of law and democracy; eradicating poverty; strengthening respect for the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone, including combating the disadvantaged situation or exposure to discrimination of groups such as women, children, persons belonging to minorities, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, persons affected by HIV/AIDS, migrants, victims of trafficking and victims of involuntary disappearances".

Paragraph 19.9 (b)

Delete the words "standard setting and" before the word "clarification".

Delete the word "protection" after the words "capacity-building".

After the word "advocacy", insert the words "support to the".

Paragraph 19.9 (c)

After the word "including", insert the following phrase:

"wider support for the work of the mechanisms created to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and for the implementation of the measures proposed by the intergovernmental organs dealing with those matters in virtue of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, as well as".

Subprogramme 2
Supporting human rights bodies and organs

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective with the following:

"to support the United Nations human rights bodies and organs, including the Human Rights Council, and to facilitate their deliberations by ensuring and enhancing their effective functioning, with a view to supporting the implementation of human rights instruments and the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by everyone at the national level"

or

At the end of the objective, add the phrase "while avoiding selectivity and double standards".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), before the words "and technical support", insert the word "appropriate". Delete the words "in developing and implementing the methodology to carry out their functions" at the end of the accomplishment.

Revise accomplishment (b) to read: "(b) Timely delivery of required substantive and appropriate support to States parties related to their participation in more streamlined reporting procedures before treaty bodies."

Delete the word "substantive" after the word "required" and the words "as well as from country visits and consideration of individual complaints" at the end of accomplishment (d).

Delete accomplishment (e).

Indicators of achievement

Revise indicator of achievement (a) (i) to read:

"(a) (i) Increased availability of documents submitted on time and prompt provision of substantive and technical support to the intergovernmental machinery and its subsidiary mechanisms in compliance with the relevant rules and regulations for the issuance of documentation, including through the use of new information technology facilities and tools".

Insert new indicator (a) (iii) to read: "(a) (iii) The quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner".

Insert new indicator of achievement (a) (iv) to read:

"(a) (iv) Reduction in the number of documents and the extent to which reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights were presented in a timely manner, in

compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation for consideration by organs dealing with human rights".

Revise indicator (b) to read: "(b) Increased support to the States parties submitting reports".

Revise indicator (c) to read: "(c) Development of new ways to disseminate and increased number of communications or information on treaty body recommendations and decisions".

Delete indicators (d) (i), (ii) and (iii).

Insert new indicator (d) to read: "(d) Increased level of satisfaction expressed by members of the treaty bodies on the assistance and support provided by the Secretariat for the preparation of their respective treaty bodies' concluding observations and recommendations".

Paragraph 19.10 (a)

Replace the subparagraph with the following: "(a) Providing substantive and technical support, as well as ensuring the analytical capacity of human rights treaty bodies for the review of reports of States parties and for the processing of complaints under international treaties".

Paragraph 19.10 (b)

Replace the phrase "coordinated support for the improvement, rationalization and streamlining of existing procedures" with the phrase "the review and, where necessary, improve and rationalize the existing human rights mechanisms".

At the end of the subparagraph, insert the phrase "in accordance with their respective mandates and works".

Paragraph 19.10 (c)

Replace the subparagraph with "(c) Facilitating deliberations and decision-making by human rights bodies".

At the end of the subparagraph, add the phrase "and abiding by the principle of objectivity and neutrality".

Paragraph 19.10 (d)

Replace the subparagraph with "(d) Strengthening the OHCHR Documents Processing Unit, acting in close cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva, with a view to more effective rationalization and streamlining of OHCHR documentation".

Paragraph 19.10 (e)

Delete the words "and coordinating" after the word "enhancing".

Delete the phrase "in order to assist in closing gaps in implementing international human rights standards and complying with treaty commitments by States parties".

Paragraph 19.10 (f)

Replace the subparagraph with the following: "(f) Promoting ratification of the human rights conventions".

Subprogramme 3
Advisory services, technical cooperation and field activities

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective, add the following: "while focusing on assisting the countries concerned to realize the right to development and promote the protection of the right for women, children, minorities and persons with disabilities".

or

Replace the objective with the following: "to assist countries, at their request, in efforts to strengthen their national plans to promote and protect human rights".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following: "(a) Enhanced capacity of the United Nations to provide assistance at the request of countries to support their national actions and plans in the field of human rights".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

"(b) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policymaking bodies".

Replace expected accomplishment (c) with the following: "(c) Enhanced support of OHCHR to human rights education and awareness-raising, including at the national level".

Delete expected accomplishments (d) and (e).

or

At the end of accomplishment (e), add the following: "in accordance with the mandate given in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and/or the Human Rights Council and with the consent of the Government".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following: "(a) Increased capacity of the United Nations country teams to support national actions and plans in the field of human rights at the request of Member States".

Replace indicator (b) with the following:

"(b) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner, and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted as well as data on their geographical distribution and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme"

At the end of indicator (c), add the following:

"to enhance awareness and effectiveness of the United Nations efforts to counter the disadvantaged situation or exposure to discrimination of groups such as women, children, persons belonging to minorities, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, migrants and victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

In indicator (c), delete the word "institutionalized"

Delete indicators (d) and (e).

Strategy

Paragraph 19.11

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

"(a) In field activities, ensuring the efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and others by supporting and developing such activities through the development of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff and training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations".

At the end of subparagraph (b), add the phrase: "in accordance with the mandate given in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and/or the Human Rights Council".

or

Delete subparagraph 19.11 (b).

Replace subparagraph 19.11 (c) with the following:

"(c) Providing advice and support to specific projects to promote respect for human rights, as well as education and training through technical cooperation programmes aimed at developing effective national human rights structures, human rights education programmes and comprehensive national plans of action. This assistance will be provided at the request of Member States through technical cooperation projects and, as appropriate, field offices".

Replace subparagraph 19.11 (d) with the following: "(d) Strengthening United Nations cooperation at the regional and subregional levels for the protection and promotion of human rights and strengthening cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, bearing in mind their respective mandates".

Delete subparagraph 19.11 (e).

or

Replace subparagraph 19.11 (e) with the following: "(e) Raising awareness and promoting specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops and the production of a wide range of educational, training and informational material".

Subprogramme 4
Support for human rights thematic fact-finding procedures

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the objective, add the following: "while ensuring the objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity of their work".

or

Add a second sentence in the objective to read: "to ensure the effective functioning of human rights monitoring mechanisms by assisting special rapporteurs and representatives, experts and working groups mandated by policymaking bodies".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following: "(a) Improved contribution by special procedures mandate holders, in the areas of their respective mandates, to the analysis of gaps in the realization of all human rights".

Delete expected accomplishments (c) and (d).

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) with the following: "(a) Increased number of reports and recommendations made by the thematic mandate holders in analytical and programmatic documents and projects".

Delete indicators (c) and (d).

Strategy

Paragraph 19.12 (a)

Replace subparagraphs (a) through (a) (iii) with the following:

"(a) Enhancing the assistance in order to strengthen the capacity of mandate holders to study, report and make recommendations within their mandates;

"(b) Providing credible and reliable information, coming from serious, responsible and reliable sources of specific thematic issues".

Old paragraph 19.12 (b)

Replace subparagraph 19.12 (b) with the following: "Supporting and providing thematic, objective and impartial expertise to fact-finding missions". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.12 (c).

Old paragraph 19.12 (c)

Replace subparagraph 19.12 (c) with the following: "Disseminating knowledge of the findings and methodology of the thematic special procedures". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.12 (d).

Old paragraph 19.12 (e)

Delete the words "to early warning mechanisms and". Redesignate the subparagraph as 19.12 (f).

Conclusions and recommendations

287. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly allocate programme 19, Human rights, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009, as well as the revised estimates relating to the 2005 World Summit Outcome (programme narratives of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 under section 23, Human rights)[2] to the Third Committee for its review and action, under the agenda item entitled "Programme planning".**

Programme 20
International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees

288. At its 16th meeting, on 28 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 20, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 20)).

289. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

290. Appreciation was expressed for the proposed strategic framework and for the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in ensuring the protection of, assistance to, and the search for durable solutions for refugees. Another view was expressed that the proposed strategic framework did not adequately address the situation of stateless persons. In that connection, it was pointed out that the situation of stateless persons was a problem that needed urgent attention.

291. The view was expressed that, because of the great importance accorded to the programme, full support should be provided to the work of UNHCR to ensure that it and its partners comprehensively addressed the protection needs of refugees,

[2] A/60/537 and A/61/131.

asylum-seekers, returnees, stateless persons and internally displaced persons, and, in particular, the special needs of refugee women, elderly refugees and refugee children and adolescents.

292. The continued emphasis of UNHCR on improving efficiency, transparency and accountability, especially through the institutionalization of results-based management, was underlined, and support for the results of the Project Profile registration system currently in place in UNHCR was expressed.

293. Support was expressed for the format of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2008-2009, and it was observed that, aside from the merger of the two subprogrammes approved for the biennium 2006-2007 into one, the name of the programme had also been changed.

294. The view was expressed that balance was needed in terms of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement in order to fully reflect both protection of and assistance to refugees in the work of UNHCR. In that connection, the view was also expressed that "assistance" should be outlined in more measurable terms.

295. With regard to expected accomplishment (a), clarification was sought on the term "enhanced international protection regime", to better understand whether it indicated the introduction of a new protocol, convention, mandate, or other, or whether it was simply intended to strengthen the implementation of the existing protection regime. As to expected accomplishments (c) and (d), it was observed that improvements could be introduced to the proposed language.

296. The view was expressed that strengthening the local capacity of countries hosting refugees and the corresponding role of UNHCR in assisting those countries to cope remained of great importance, and clarification was sought as to what that assistance entailed.

297. It was also observed that some countries had been hosts to large numbers of refugees and appreciation was expressed to UNHCR for the assistance provided in responding to the influx of refugees in those countries. Clarification was sought as to how UNHCR anticipated strengthening host country capacity in providing quality asylum. The view was expressed that many host countries suffered from severe poverty and were faced with the challenge of receiving refugees who were themselves living in extreme poverty, which led to feelings of frustration and potential conflict between host countries and refugees. For that reason, it was observed that strengthening the local capacity remained of great importance and that UNHCR should be provided with the financial resources to carry out its mandate adequately.

298. The view was expressed that all relevant legislative mandates concerning refugees had been properly reflected in the proposed strategic framework. However, clarification was sought for the phrase "all persons of concern to UNHCR" (expected accomplishment (b)) and its significance.

Conclusions and recommendations

299. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 20, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

Objective of the Organization

At the end of the paragraph, add the words "from the outset of an emergency until such time as the beneficiaries have been successfully reintegrated into their communities of origin".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the words "protection regime, including its implementation at the national level" with the words "cooperation in the protection of refugees and others of concern".

At the end of expected accomplishment (d), add the words "to assist refugees and others of concern to UNHCR in a spirit of burden-sharing and international solidarity".

Add a new expected accomplishment (e) reading: "(e) Progress in helping host countries in the provision of assistance to refugees and others of concern to UNHCR and in strengthening their local capacity to cope with related issues".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (ii), after the words "Strengthened host country capacity", insert the words "upon request".

Replace indicator (a) (iii) with the following: "(iii) More efficient processing of refugee status determination".

Add a new indicator (b) (vi) to read:

"(vi) Increased number of primary health-care facilities per 10,000 refugees established by UNHCR, as well as other quantifiable improvements brought about with the assistance of UNHCR to meet basic needs of refugees and others of concern to UNHCR".

In indicator (c) (ii), after the words "forced displacement", add the words "in the framework of programmes of voluntary repatriation to the countries of origin".

Replace the text of indicator (d) (iii) with the following: "(iii) Increased number of coordinated initiatives of relevant United Nations agencies aimed at addressing needs of refugees or returnees and the surrounding communities".

Add a new indicator (d) (iv) reading: "(iv) Number of government agencies involved in the support of countries hosting/reintegrating refugees in accordance with the UNHCR strategy of repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction".

Add a new indicator (e) reading: "(e) Number of countries assisted by UNHCR to provide assistance to refugees and others of concern to UNHCR and to strengthen their capacity to cope with related issues".

Strategy

Paragraph 20.8

At the end of the paragraph, add the following:

"UNHCR will also focus on the establishment of so-called "4R" programmes for returnees and internally displaced persons of concern to UNHCR, to ensure the linkages between repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction".

Programme 21
Palestine refugees

300. At its 17th meeting, on 28 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 21, Palestine refugees, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 21)).

301. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

302. Appreciation was expressed for the programme and the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The importance of the peaceful resolution of the Palestinian issue and the settlement of the Middle East question were expressed.

303. Clarification was sought on some indicators of achievement under subprogrammes 1, education, and 2, health. The Committee was informed that WHO had conducted an external review of the UNRWA health programme and commended both its efficiency and effectiveness.

304. Clarification was sought on the coordination of UNRWA activities among the various capitals in the region. It was informed that increasing use of videoconferencing for meetings and a decentralized approach to field operations had ensured continuity of operations and coordination between UNRWA field offices.

305. While noting the partnership between UNRWA, UNESCO and WHO, a question was raised concerning partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme, and the role of regional organizations. Concern was expressed about the funding situation of UNRWA.

Conclusions and recommendations

306. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 21, Palestine refugees, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overview orientation

Paragraph 21.1

Add the following new paragraph after paragraph 21.1 and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly:

"21.2 UNRWA reports directly to the General Assembly. Overall review of UNRWA programmes and activities is undertaken by the 23-member Advisory Commission, which includes representatives of the Agency's major donors and host Governments. In its resolution 3331 B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, the General Assembly decided that, with effect from 1 January 1975, the expenses relating to the emoluments of international staff in the service of UNRWA, which would otherwise have been charged to voluntary contributions, should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate."

Old paragraph 21.6

At the end of the paragraph, add the following two sentences:

"In each subprogramme area, including general education and technical and vocational training, maternal and child health care and disease prevention, poverty eradication and microfinance, the Agency has sought to achieve programme results consistent with the targets and commitments established by the United Nations system, such as the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. UNRWA will continue, in its five areas of operation, to maintain its efforts to achieve this consistency throughout 2008-2009, including in the areas of educational services, health services, relief and social services and income-generating programmes, and will continue to undertake projects to improve infrastructure and socio-economic conditions."

Subprogramme 1
Education

Objective of the Organization

Replace the word "enhance" with the word "improve".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

After accomplishment (a), add the following two accomplishments:

"(b) Adapted and improved course content and curricula in both the general and technical education programmes to match developments in host countries

"(c) Adapted and improved course content and curricula in vocational training institutions to meet changing market conditions".

Indicators of achievement

After indicator (a), add the following indicators:

"(b) Percentage of the curricula adapted or improved relative to the total number of modifications required

"(c) Percentage of the curricula adapted or improved relative to the total number of modifications required".

Subprogramme 2
Health

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In accomplishment (c), replace the word "Enhanced" with the word "Improved".

After accomplishment (e), add the following new accomplishment: "(f) Reduction of psychological trauma resulting from years of insecurity and chronic violence".

Indicators of achievement

At the end of indicator (c) (ii), add the words "including potable water".

After indicator (e), add the following new indicator: "(f) Increased assistance to persons suffering from mental trauma".

Programme 22
Humanitarian assistance

307. At its 17th meeting, on 28 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 22, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 22)).

308. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

309. Support and appreciation were expressed for the important and invaluable role played by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the delivery of emergency humanitarian relief and assistance. It was emphasized that humanitarian assistance was an important area where the United Nations played a critical role, as evidenced in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami. Appreciation was expressed for the United Nations role in providing emergency relief and assistance to the victims of disasters, especially the victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami.

310. It was emphasized that coordination within and outside the United Nations system was important, in terms of both actions and resources, for effective and timely response to humanitarian emergencies. The view was expressed that effective coordination among the United Nations system organizations, international organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, national

authorities, the donor community and the private sector was important not only to ensure coherent, coordinated and timely delivery of humanitarian assistance, but also to avoid duplication of efforts, overlapping and competition for resources among providers of humanitarian assistance. Concern was expressed that coordination efforts to deal with disasters were inadequate, and support was expressed for the further strengthening of the coordination role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

311. It was pointed out that concerted action was required on the part of all stakeholders to address humanitarian disasters wherever they occurred. It was emphasized that early warning, contingency planning and proactive measures were vital for timely response to disasters. Views were expressed in support of national Governments' efforts in providing humanitarian assistance. The view was also expressed that the capacity of disaster-prone countries to deal with disasters should be strengthened. It was observed that impartiality was important in the provision of humanitarian assistance and should be respected.

312. The establishment of the Central Emergency Response Fund was welcomed, and the hope was expressed that its resources would augment and maximize the resources made available for humanitarian assistance.

313. Concern was expressed that a vast majority of the activities of the Office were funded from voluntary contributions. It was observed that the financial base of the Office needed augmentation from alternative sources of funding.

314. It was observed that the terms "emergency" and "recovery" should be clarified.

315. It was indicated that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further improvement and refinement.

Conclusions and recommendations

316. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 22, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 22.2

In the first sentence of the paragraph, after the words "natural disaster", insert the word "risk".

Replace the last sentence of the paragraph with the following:

"Within the United Nations system, the principal responsibility for the coordination and promotion of disaster risk reduction activities resides with the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, while responsibility for the implementation of the Strategy resides with the United Nations system organizations in accordance with their respective mandates."

Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

Expected accomplishments

At the end of expected accomplishment (c), insert the words "upon the requests of national Governments".

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (c) (i) with the following: "The number of resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators trained in the application of guidelines on the protection of civilians".

Strategy

Paragraph 22.4

Replace the words "humanitarian principles, including those recognized in resolution 46/182" with the words "guiding principles as contained in the annex to resolution 46/182".

Paragraph 22.6

In the first sentence, replace the word "Branch" with the words "Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs".

Subprogramme 2
Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response

Expected accomplishments

In expected accomplishment (c), replace the words "mainstreaming a gender perspective" with the words "addressing the special needs of women and children".

In expected accomplishment (e), replace the word "emerging" with the word "new".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a), before the words "coordination mechanisms", insert the words "effective resource"; delete the words "including the deployment of humanitarian coordination personnel in the field at the onset of an emergency, within five days".

In indicator (c), after the words "needs of women", insert the words "and children".

At the end of indicator (d) (i), insert the words "in particular the Secretary-General's note of guidance on integrated missions dated 9 February 2006".

Add a new indicator of achievement (e) (iii), to read: "Agreed priority needs and programmes funded through CERF in a timely manner".

In indicator of achievement (f), after the words "International assistance", insert the words "as well as efficient coordination of international relief efforts".

Strategy

Paragraph 22.8

At the end of the paragraph, replace the words "principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality, as contained in resolution 46/182" with the words "guiding principles as contained in the annex to resolution 46/182".

Paragraph 22.9

At the end of the paragraph, insert the words "as a basis to further improve the process of designing relevant emergency response programmes, policies and guidance".

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

Objective of the Organization

Replace the word "reduce" with the words "provide leadership and build partnerships in reducing".

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator (b) (iii), to read: "Number of countries with effective and functioning national coordination mechanisms in place".

At the end of indicator (c) (i), insert the words "and other relevant stakeholders".

Replace the text of indicator (d) with the following: "Global amount of disaster risk reduction activities financed by all relevant stakeholders."

Subprogramme 4
Emergency support services

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (c), replace the words "every major disaster" with the word "disasters".

Subprogramme 5
Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy

Indicators of achievement

Add a new indicator (b) (iii), to read: "Increased use of inter-agency early warning/early action mechanisms resulting in an increase in the number of United Nations country team contingency plans for humanitarian emergencies".

Programme 23
Public information

317. At its 15th meeting, on 25 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 23, Public information, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 23)).

318. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

319. General support was expressed for the work of the programme, its strategies and its three subprogrammes. The new client orientation was welcomed and emphasis on the promotion of priority issues was supported. Views were expressed supporting the strengthening of cooperation and interaction with other organizations. However, there was also a view stressing the need for the programme to improvise and modernize, as well as focus on the core social and developmental issues, such as human rights, HIV/AIDs and successes in peacekeeping.

320. Views were expressed strongly supporting multilingualism. It was noted that multilingualism was not stressed sufficiently and that the United Nations websites did not have full multilingual capacity. The view was also expressed that the use of all six official languages should be mandatory. It was noted that it was the responsibility of the substantive departments to provide information to the Department of Public Information in the six official languages.

321. The role of United Nations information centres as an information source in local languages was supported. In particular, the information centre in Rio de Janeiro was praised. Support was also expressed for the establishment of information centres in Angola and in Israel. Views were expressed supporting the strengthening of languages other than the official languages, as they had strong local impact. Questions were raised about the status of Portuguese and Hindi language programmes.

322. It was noted that radio was the most important medium in reaching a wide audience in developing countries, especially as some newer technologies might not be accessible to developing countries. Portuguese and Spanish radio programming was commended. A question was raised regarding the ability of the Department of Public Information to promote high-tech information exchange by providing computers to the public in local communities.

323. The inclusion of General Assembly resolution 60/266 in the list of legislative mandates was supported. However, concern was raised over certain strategies, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. The view that the Secretariat could not be held accountable for the quality of media coverage or journalists' articles was expressed. A question was raised regarding how the library was to be evaluated. The need for increased use of technologies tailored to users, bearing in mind the capacity of developing countries, was discussed. The need for further coordination between the Department of Public Information and other organizations of the United Nations system was also highlighted.

Conclusions and recommendations

324. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 23, Public information, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 23.2

In the first sentence, after the words "human rights", insert the words "dialogue among civilizations"; replace the words "and the needs of the African continent" with the words "the needs of the African continent and coverage of United Nations peacekeeping efforts".

Paragraph 23.3

Before the words "the building", delete the word "and"; at the end of the paragraph, insert the words "and the parity of official United Nations languages in preparing news and communications materials".

Legislative mandates

Add the following General Assembly resolutions:

60/260	**Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide**
60/266	**Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues**

Programme 24
Management and support services

325. At its 9th meeting, on 22 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 24, Management and support services, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 24)).

326. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

327. The programme was recognized as being the backbone of the Organization, and the importance of improving the effective and efficient functioning of finance, human resources and support services was raised. The view was expressed that reform was particularly important. It was also noted that while reform had been undertaken over the years, the results had been mitigated and there was still scope for improvement.

328. The view was expressed that accountability, in particular that of the Secretariat to Member States, should be more fully reflected in the programme. The report was praised for its drafting and clarity and for reflecting recent legislative changes.

However, the need for enhancements to some objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement was pointed out. The role of the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi in facilitating inter-agency cooperation in common services was acknowledged.

329. The proposed strategy under the management services component of subprogramme 1, management services, administration of justice and services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and to the Committee for Programme and Coordination, focusing on effective communication with Member States and within the Secretariat on policy issues and on monitoring and reporting on the impact of management reforms, was welcomed. At the same time, it was noted that further refinement of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement would be needed, in particular those relating to procedures, internal controls and best-practice standards in order to make them more specific and measurable.

330. Regarding the administration of justice component of subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that the concept of an internal, equitable and effective system of administration of justice was not properly reflected. It was noted that that component, including the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, would need further revisions in the light of the outcome of the review by the Redesign Panel on the United Nations system of administration of justice. Concerns were expressed regarding the establishment of that component under the Department of Management.

331. Regarding services to the Fifth Committee and the Committee for Programme and Coordination, views were expressed on the technical services to be provided and on how the Secretariat would measure the level of satisfaction of Member States with the work provided by the Secretariat.

332. As to subprogramme 2, programme planning, budget and accounts, appreciation was expressed for the important role of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts and its keeping results-based budgeting under review. The view was expressed that the expected accomplishments could be refined to achieve tangible results. Under subprogramme 2 (b), financial services relating to peacekeeping activities, it was pointed out that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Member States and police and troop-contributing countries, referred to under expected accomplishment (a), were of different levels, that the performance of Member States should not be measured and that indicator of achievement (b) was limited. The view was expressed that subprogramme 2 (e), assessment and processing of contributions, should reflect efficiency in the recovery of contributions among its expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

333. Concerning subprogramme 3, Human resources management, concern was expressed about issues relating to gender balance/gender mainstreaming, and it was pointed out that gender equality was not satisfactory, despite Article 8 of the Charter of the United Nations. The view was expressed that geographical representation complemented competence and merit as requirements for staff recruitment and that a high level of competence and professional qualifications was required. The need for a new human resources framework and changes to the objective for organizational development was raised. At the same time, views were expressed regarding the changes between the proposed strategic framework for 2008-2009 and that of 2006-2007, with particular concern as to the legislative mandates for those

changes. Concerns were expressed regarding the indicators of achievement relating to length of time required for recruitment, strategic recruitment, staff motivation and satisfaction, and mobility.

334. Regarding subprogramme 4, Support services, the view was expressed that the subprogramme had a vital role to play in supporting the reform of the Organization and that, while progress had been made, improvements were still necessary. Concern was expressed regarding information and communication technology. Notably, the view was expressed that while efficiency and effectiveness were clearly stated as objectives, the indicators were not reflected as such. Clarification was sought as to how the new position of Chief Information Technology Officer would be reflected in the strategic framework for information and communication technology services. Concern was expressed that information technology communication support service in Nairobi appeared inadequate, as shown by technical difficulties in making videoconference connections. Clarification was sought regarding the use of open-source technology and its exclusion as an expected accomplishment or indicator of achievement. Regarding other support services, concern was expressed that enhancing procurement opportunities for developing countries was not included as an objective. Support was expressed for improving the quality of procurement actions and for ensuring that the highest standards of ethical conduct were applied.

Conclusions and recommendations

335. **The Committee noted with concern the use of terminology in the overall orientation and subprogramme 1 that had not been approved by the General Assembly and was not contained in legislative mandates. The Committee recommended that the programme managers be requested to refrain from using terminology that had not been approved by the Assembly, as well as to ensure that legislative mandates were accurately translated into programmes and subprogrammes, taking into account regulation 4.2 and rule 104.7 (e) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning and the relevant provisions of Assembly resolutions on results-based budgeting.**

336. **The Committee noted that the General Assembly would consider reports on human resources management reform and administration of justice at its sixty-first session and recommended that the relevant subprogrammes under programme 24 be kept under review so as to ensure that any decisions of the Assembly that might require revisions to the logical framework were reflected in the revised programme.**

337. **The Committee recommended that the Department of Management be requested to amend the overall orientation and subprogramme 4 to reflect any decisions that the Assembly might take when it considered the report of the Secretary-General on information and communication technology to be submitted in accordance with section II of Assembly resolution 60/283.**

338. **The Committee stressed that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of subprogramme 4 (a) might require further revisions once the General Assembly, at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session, had received and considered the comprehensive report on investing in information and communication technology, in accordance with its resolutions 60/260 and 60/283.**

339. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 24, Management and support services, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 24.2

Replace the words "58/269 and 60/1" with the words "58/269, 60/1, 60/260 and 60/283".

Paragraph 24.3

In the first sentence, replace the words "including those" with the word "as".

At the end of the paragraph, insert footnote indicator 1, and at the bottom of the page insert footnote 1, reading: "Clients include intergovernmental bodies, Member States, offices within the Secretariat and other United Nations entities, staff members and any other recipients of services and other outputs provided under the programme."

Paragraph 24.4

In the first sentence, replace the words "international best practice standards" with the words "the expectations of Member States as reflected in the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, as well as relevant regulations and rules of the United Nations".

In the second sentence, after the words "programme planning", insert the words "more effective use of results-based management".

Paragraph 24.5

Delete paragraph 24.5 and renumber the successive paragraphs accordingly.

Subprogramme 1
Management services, administration of justice and services to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and to the Committee for Programme and Coordination

(a) Management services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace the text of expected accomplishment (a) with the following: "Improved Secretariat management policies, procedures and internal controls that fully comply with legislative mandates and relevant regulations and rules".

Add a new expected accomplishment (c), to read: "Improved methods, tools and techniques to assess efficiency and productivity in key management and service functions".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a), replace the words "meet or exceed international 'best practices'" with the words "fully comply with legislative mandates and relevant regulations and rules".

Add a new indicator of achievement (c), to read: "Number of benchmarks and other improved methods and tools utilized by the Secretariat to assess efficiency and productivity and submission of reports to the General Assembly on them".

Strategy

Old paragraph 24.9

In the third sentence, before the words "management reforms", insert the word "approved".

(b) Administration of justice

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace the words "expeditious, consistent and" with the words "fair and effective"; insert the words "human resources" before the word "policies"; and designate the expected accomplishment as (a).

Add a new expected accomplishment (b), to read: "Measures to ensure timely participation of managers in the administration of justice process".

Indicators of achievement

Insert the designation "(a)" before indicator (i).

In indicator of achievement (a) (iii), insert the words "and concluded" after the words "disposed of".

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (iv), to read: "Reduced time period between judgement of appeals and implementation of appellate decisions".

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (v), to read: "Increased percentage of responses indicating satisfaction with the fairness and effectiveness of the system of internal justice".

Add a new indicator of achievement (b), to read: "Material reduction in delays in or extension of cases resulting from the failure of managers to respond".

Subprogramme 2
Programme planning, budget and accounts

(a) Programme planning and budgeting

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (ii), insert the word "quality" after the word "clarity".

(b) Financial services relating to peacekeeping operations

Expected accomplishments

Replace the text of expected accomplishment (a) with the following: "Improved reporting to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Member States and police and troop-contributing countries on issues relating to peacekeeping".

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator (b) as (b) (i) and add a new indicator of achievement (b) (ii), to read: "Increased positive feedback from the peacekeeping missions on the quality of guidance and services rendered".

(c) Treasury services

Expected accomplishments

Replace the text of expected accomplishment (a) with the following: "Continued prudent stewardship of funds."

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

(a) Operational services

Objective of the Organization

After the words "in the Organization", insert the words "with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of posts, in particular at senior levels".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), delete the words "system for"; after the word "promotion", insert the words "as well as facilitating greater geographical representation and gender balance of staff".

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (a) (ii) with the following:

"Increased number of departments that, in partnership with the Office of Human Resources Management, apply strategic recruitment and achieve recruitment targets towards improving geographic distribution and gender balances".

Add a new indicator (a) (iii), to read: "Increased number of nationals from unrepresented and underrepresented Member States and developing countries in the Secretariat, in particular at senior levels".

Add a new indicator (a) (iv), to read: "Reduction in the average number of days a post remains vacant in the Secretariat".

(b) Organizational development

Objective of the Organization

Replace the existing objective with the following: "to promote organizational culture change in the Secretariat, to build a more versatile and multi-skilled staff and to improve the working environment".

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (a) (i) with the following: "Increased staff participation in learning and career development programmes managed by the Office of Human Resources Management under this subprogramme".

Subprogramme 4
Support services

(a) Information and communication technology services

Strategy

Old paragraph 24.21

Replace the first sentence of the paragraph with the following: "This subprogramme is the responsibility of the Information Technology Services Division of the Office of Central Support Services under the strategic direction of the Chief Information Technology Officer."

Add a new subparagraph (e), to read: "Promoting the use of open-source software in the United Nations Secretariat."

(b) Other support services

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add a new expected accomplishment (f), to read: "Improved access and participation of vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in United Nations procurement".

Indicators of achievement

Insert a new indicator (f), to read: "Increased procurement from vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in United Nations procurement".

B. United Nations Office at Geneva

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (b) (i) with the following: "Increase in the staff mobility index".

C. United Nations Office at Vienna

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (b) (i) with the following: "Increase in the staff mobility index".

D. United Nations Office at Nairobi

Subprogramme 3
Human resources management

Indicators of achievement

Replace the text of indicator (b) (i) with the following: "Increase in the staff mobility index".

Legislative mandates

Insert the following General Assembly resolutions under the headings indicated:

Overall

59/296	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
60/266	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
60/283	Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report

Subprogramme 1

58/268	Programme planning
60/260	Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide
60/283	Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report

Subprogramme 2

60/260	Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide
60/266	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
60/283	Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report

Subprogramme 3

59/296	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
60/260	Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide
60/266	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues

Subprogramme 4

59/296	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
59/289	Outsourcing practices
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
60/260	Investing in the United Nations: for a stronger Organization worldwide
60/266	Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: cross-cutting issues
60/283	Investing in the United Nations for a stronger Organization worldwide: detailed report

Programme 25
Internal oversight

340. At its 9th meeting, on 22 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 25, Internal oversight, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 25)).

341. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

342. It was noted that internal oversight offered an opportunity to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization. The view was expressed that promoting a culture of change was a challenging and demanding task to which the Office of Internal Oversight Services could make a significant contribution. At the same time, it was noted that that Office should not be a substitute for the responsibilities of management relating to change management issues, and should focus primarily on its core functions, namely, audit, monitoring, evaluation and investigation. It was also noted that the overall orientation of the programme would need to be adjusted to be fully in line with the mandate of the programme as reflected in General Assembly resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and in subsequent resolutions.

343. The view was expressed that Member States needed information to carry out the shared role of oversight, and while more reports were not needed, Member States required more relevant and better quality reports. In particular, it was emphasized that audit reports should be issued promptly, as they lost value over time. The view was expressed that the objective formulated under subprogramme 1, internal audit, did not cover the extent of the activities to be carried out. Appreciation and encouragement was expressed for coordination and dialogue with other oversight partners, including the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit. The importance of follow-up to recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services was emphasized, and support was expressed for expected accomplishment (c) under subprogramme 1, but it was noted that the indicators of achievement did not adequately reflect the ambitious accomplishment and should be revised to cover qualitative as well as quantitative aspects. Furthermore, under the same expected accomplishment, the view was expressed that it was important to measure the level of efficiency in the implementation of programmes, including those calling for mainstreaming of a gender perspective and related indicators of achievement. Regarding expected accomplishment (a) under subprogramme 1, it was noted that it focused on the provision of reports to programme managers, and did not reference the provision of reports to legislative bodies.

344. With regard to subprogramme 2, monitoring, evaluation and consulting, it was noted that the objective for 2008-2009 had been changed, and as a result the emphasis had been shifted regarding the work to be done to strengthen and implement Secretariat programmes. It was noted that expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement under that subprogramme should reflect the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in strengthening the self-evaluation capacity of the Organization. Support was expressed for the establishment of a web-based, user-friendly facility for the central deposit of evaluations and evaluative methodologies available to all staff. The view was expressed that expected accomplishment (a) and the related indicator of achievement were too broad and vague, and clarification was needed as to measurement and strategies for implementation.

345. Under subprogramme 3, investigations, it was noted that the objective for 2008-2009 had been changed, resulting in a shift in emphasis in the work to be carried out. Furthermore, the view was expressed that a better objective had been formulated for the period 2006-2007. The view was expressed that preventive measures in relation to investigations should be reflected in the strategic framework, and the expected accomplishments should incorporate that aspect.

Conclusions and recommendations

346. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 25, Internal oversight, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 25.1

After the first sentence, insert a new sentence, to read

"The mandate for the programme derives from the responsibility of the Secretary-General as the Chief Administrative Officer of the

United Nations, entrusted to him under Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations."

Subprogramme 1
Internal audit

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the word "managers", add the words "and legislative bodies".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (i), after the words "programme managers", add the words "and Member States".

Subprogramme 3
Investigations

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective as follows: "to ensure, through investigations, compliance with the regulations and rules of the United Nations and to minimize the occurrence of fraud, violations of regulations and rules of the United Nations, mismanagement, misconduct, waste of resources and abuse of authority."

Indicators of achievement

In the indicator of achievement, after the word "accepted", add the words "and implemented".

Programme 26
Jointly financed activities

347. At its 18th meeting, on 29 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 26, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 26)).

348. The representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

349. General support was expressed for the programme. The value and importance of the activities proposed in programme 26 were recognized.

350. Regarding component A, International Civil Service Commission, the importance of the independence of the Commission was stressed. Clarification was sought with respect to the study on further development and strengthening of a common system of salaries, allowances and benefits as mentioned in paragraph 26.2 (a) of the report. Clarification was also sought with respect to the use of the word "maintenance" rather than "increase" in the indicators of achievement.

351. Regarding component B, Joint Inspection Unit, satisfaction was expressed with respect to the reference to coordination with other organs to avoid duplication and achieve synergies under paragraph 26.5 (c).

352. Regarding component C, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the view was expressed that the formulation of the framework was vague. Further information was sought on how to improve dialogue and cooperation between CEB and the Committee. As to the overall orientation, it was noted with concern that the Board's focus had shifted from "promoting greater synergies" in the biennium 2006-2007 to "greater coherence among the organizations". The use of the phrase "human security" was questioned in view of the lack of agreement among Member States on that phrase. It was further stressed that CEB should continue to enhance and monitor system-wide efforts to fight poverty and hunger. With regard to expected accomplishment (a), concern was expressed with respect to the change from "increased collaboration and coordination among member organizations in response to decisions of intergovernmental bodies" in the biennium 2006-2007 to "enhanced horizontal cooperation". A question was raised as to whether indicator of achievement (a) could be used to evaluate the related expected accomplishment.

Conclusions and recommendations

353. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 26, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Overall orientation

Paragraph 26.7

Delete the first sentence and insert the following text:

"26.7 In the biennium 2008-2009, CEB will focus its work on accelerating progress in the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. To this end, CEB will ensure greater coherence among the organizations of the system."

In the second sentence, replace the words "better managing knowledge" with "improving knowledge management".

Delete the third sentence.

After the former fourth sentence, add a new sentence, to read "CEB will continue to enhance and monitor the effective coordination of system-wide efforts against hunger and poverty."

In the penultimate sentence, replace the words "increased platforms" with the words "improved platforms".

In the last sentence, replace the words "mutual aims" with the words "common goals" and replace the word "dynamic" with the word "timely".

Delete the words "and the provision of system-wide analysis of emerging challenges that will assist Member States in taking decisions relevant to the work of the system".

Expected accomplishments

Revise expected accomplishment (a) to read: "Enhanced horizontal cooperation among member organizations in response to decisions of intergovernmental bodies".

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator (a) as (a) (i) and add a new indicator (ii) reading: "(ii) Number of joint or complementary programmes and projects with strategic impact, task-specific inter-agency networking, time-bound working groups and other facilitating initiatives and activities to strengthen system-wide follow-up to intergovernmental decisions".

Programme 27
Safety and security

354. At its 10th meeting, on 22 August 2006, the Committee considered programme 27, Safety and security, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 27)).

355. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

356. General support was expressed for the programme, including recognition of the importance of its activities. The presentation of the programme was commended and the merging of the two previous subprogrammes into one subprogramme was welcomed.

357. The view was expressed that the security and safety of personnel in peacekeeping missions was of crucial importance. It was pointed out that cooperation between the Department of Safety and Security, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to protect personnel in the peacekeeping missions should be addressed in the programme. The view was expressed that the results-based framework contained in the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations could be cross-referenced in subprogramme 2 (a). The importance of continued collaboration between the United Nations and agencies, funds and programmes and coordination between Headquarters and regional commissions was highlighted.

358. Regarding subprogramme 1, security and safety coordination, views were expressed regarding whether one indicator of achievement for (b) was sufficient to measure the expected accomplishment of enhancing the coordination of security arrangements at United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions. Furthermore, clarification was sought with respect to "personal protection operations" in indicator of achievement (b), the meaning of "unauthorized entry" in indicator of achievement (a) (ii) and the procedure for action in cases where a staff

member was threatened. The view was expressed that the security responsibilities of the host country were not reflected in the programme.

359. Regarding subprogramme 2, regional field coordination and support, a question was raised concerning the selection criteria for security personnel. For subprogramme 2 (a), clarification was sought with regard to the threat and risk analyses referred to in indicator of achievement (a) (i) on how to achieve the expanded field support referred to in indicator of achievement (c) (ii). For subprogramme 2 (b), clarification was sought with regard to the meaning of "multiple clients" and "United Nations security management system" in the objective of the Organization.

Conclusions and recommendations

360. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 27, Safety and security, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modification**:

Subprogramme 1
Security and safety coordination

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (b), after the word "coordinated", insert the words "across United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions".

C. Evaluation

1. Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives

361. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/61/83 and Corr.1).

362. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

363. The view was expressed that evaluation was a critically important function and that the report was a helpful and informative account of the frequency and quality of evaluation practice. The report indicated with concern how evaluation was functioning across the Secretariat. It was noted with regret that evaluation seemed to be of low priority and that so few staff members were working in that area. There appeared to be many internal needs in that regard, particularly in terms of training staff in evaluation techniques in order to enhance the overall quality of the evaluations within the Secretariat. Furthermore, there appeared to be serious gaps within the Secretariat in that area, including the absence of clarity surrounding leadership, insufficient capacity and the need to improve internal structures for evaluation.

364. Delegations noted that improving the practice of self-evaluation was crucial and required commitment from senior managers, and agreement was expressed with the measures outlined in the report in that regard. It was noted that there was a need to ensure that programme managers took responsibility for self-evaluation, and that that approach would encourage greater accountability by having managers themselves explain their findings and respond to Member States' questions and feedback. Managers should therefore absorb and adapt best practices for self-evaluation so that they had the tools to improve their programmes. It was viewed as important that evaluation recommendations be directly linked to the next stage of the planning cycle and the adoption of the budget. The needs assessment exercise described in paragraph 29 of the report was seen as an important first step in improving the current evaluation practice in the Secretariat. The objective of the exercise was to help each of the programmes determine the type of evaluation that was best suited to its work, assess current capacity and gaps, then feed that information into evaluation planning and budgeting.

365. Questions were raised about the type of evaluation training for staff currently undertaken by OIOS. It was explained that in the light of staff constraints, OIOS had not been able to conduct any training in recent years, indicating a notable gap. OIOS explained its current strategy for filling that gap: development of a training module on evaluation to be incorporated into existing training being conducted by the Office of Human Resources Management and other parts of the Secretariat. The module was slated to be piloted in the regional commissions towards the end of 2006 or early in 2007.

366. Clarification was requested on the actions being taken to follow up on the implementation of evaluation recommendations. The representative of OIOS described the existing system by which progress in the implementation of recommendations was assessed. The process was based on a consultative process with the programmes in question six months after the OIOS report findings were disseminated. In addition, the triennial review process had led to a more systematic evaluation and assessment of the type of changes and impact of the evaluation recommendations.

367. Questions on the mandate and nature of the report were raised by delegations. It was observed that the current report contained information about the process and the quality of evaluation efforts throughout the Secretariat. What would be more useful, however, would be objective assessment by OIOS of the impact of those evaluation efforts, in order to show what improvements and changes had been effected. There was a need to deliberate on and revisit the value added of the report. In addition, it was noted that OIOS reports themselves were of mixed quality and that OIOS itself should therefore look to improving its own reports, as some OIOS reports were academic and not very practical.

368. With respect to topics for future evaluation (paras. 33-37), one delegation indicated that it would reserve its position on the subject until a later stage of the Committee's deliberations.

Conclusions and recommendations

369. **The Committee selected the following topics for in-depth evaluation, to be presented to the Committee for its consideration: in 2008, Department of Management — Office of Human Resources Management; and in 2009, United Nations support for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and Africa.**

370. **The Committee selected the following topics for thematic evaluation, to be presented to the Committee for its consideration: in 2008, Lessons learned: protocols and practices; and in 2009, United Nations coordinating bodies, to be undertaken in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999 and 59/272 of 23 December 2004.**

2. Thematic evaluation of knowledge management networks in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration

371. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the thematic evaluation of knowledge management networks in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration (E/AC.51/2006/2).

372. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

373. Delegations raised concerns about the implications of the negative findings of the evaluation. In particular, concern was expressed about the lack of mechanisms and tools to capture the institutional memory of retiring staff. The adverse implications of outsourcing, including the resulting loss of institutional memory, were also noted. Concerns were also raised about the finding that knowledge was not always shared in an open spirit, and about the lack of integration of knowledge-sharing into work processes. Clarification was sought as to whether the incentives and rewards for knowledge-sharing should be moral, financial or both. It was noted that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library had the appropriate expertise to assume a leadership role in the Secretariat with regard to knowledge-sharing, and that existing information and communication technology should also be utilized.

374. Questions were raised about the methodology utilized for the evaluation, in particular the low response rates of subprogrammes and the selection of entities interviewed. The representative of OIOS noted that the response rates achieved in the evaluation compared favourably to the norm for Secretariat surveys and that the external entities selected for interviews were acknowledged leaders in knowledge management. A question was raised regarding the feasibility of measuring the impact of knowledge networks on the achievement of the Millennium Declaration Goals. The clarification sought on the mandate for the evaluation was provided by the representative of OIOS.

375. General support was expressed for the recommendations contained in the report. It was stated that they had important, system-wide implications beyond the Millennium Declaration Goals and that changes would have to be made incrementally rather than merely creating additional procedures with little added value. The question was raised as to how a knowledge management strategy would be operationalized.

Conclusions and recommendations

376. **The Committee commended the Office of Internal Oversight Services for its excellent report and for raising awareness of that important topic and its role in improving programme implementation in the Secretariat, including in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration.**

377. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly:**

(a) **Welcome the knowledge-sharing initiatives being pursued by several United Nations entities, including the Secretariat Task Force on Knowledge-Sharing, the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) Task Force on Knowledge-Sharing and the United Nations Development Group Working Group on Knowledge Management;**

(b) **Request the Secretary-General, as Chairman of CEB, to encourage the Board's newly established Task Force on Knowledge-Sharing to fully consider the recommendation contained in paragraph 72 of the report;**

(c) **Also request the Secretary-General to expand the membership of the Secretariat Task Force and to include additional substantive offices;**

(d) **Request the Secretariat Task Force, under the leadership of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, which has the appropriate expertise, to continue to develop a Secretariat knowledge-sharing agenda, taking into account the recommendations contained in paragraphs 73, 74, 76 and 77 of the report and the knowledge-sharing initiatives being pursued by other United Nations entities, including the CEB Task Force on Knowledge-Sharing, the Working Group on Knowledge Management of the United Nations Development Group, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund;**

(e) **Request the Secretary-General to consider designating the Knowledge-Sharing Section of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library as the lead Secretariat unit with responsibility for developing, encouraging, facilitating and guiding knowledge-sharing in the Secretariat, taking into account the recommendation contained in paragraph 75 of the report;**

(f) **Also request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Committee on Information, on the further development of the knowledge-sharing initiatives of the Secretariat.**

3. Usefulness of the pilot thematic evaluation

378. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the usefulness of the pilot thematic evaluation (E/AC.51/2006/3).

379. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

380. Member States were encouraged to draw from the findings of the report on the usefulness of the pilot thematic evaluation in deciding on the usefulness of thematic evaluations more generally. The representative of OIOS noted that the report had been mandated by the Committee. The identification of lessons learned from the

pilot thematic evaluation was commended. The continuation of OIOS thematic evaluations was supported and it was stated that they were helpful.

Conclusions and recommendations

381. **The Committee agreed that OIOS should continue to undertake a thematic evaluation for submission to the Committee.**

4. In-depth evaluation of political affairs

382. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs (E/AC.51/2006/4) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (E/AC.51/2006/4/Add.1).

383. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

384. Appreciation was expressed for the informative and comprehensive nature of the report and for the recommendations made. Concern was expressed regarding some of the key findings, in particular the low capacity of the regional divisions relative to their broad and important mandates, the lack of conceptual clarity in operational work in conflict prevention, peacemaking and post-conflict peacebuilding, the mixed capability of the regional divisions to produce informational and analytical products of consistently high quality and the apparent low priority given to gender mainstreaming issues in the Department of Political Affairs.

385. With regard to the finding that significant strengthening and retooling of the regional divisions was needed, it was noted that OIOS fell short of making concrete recommendations on how the regional divisions could be strengthened and retooled. The recommendation for the regional divisions to undergo an intensive change-management process to review and make concrete strengthening proposals would cause further delay in addressing the issue. It was furthermore suggested that OIOS should take into consideration the request for it to make more concrete proposals in its reports.

386. OIOS provided clarification on a number of issues, including: how some of the more ambitious recommendations requiring broad consultation with the United Nations and other actors could be implemented; the nature of the problematic relationship between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs; the implications for the quality of Security Council reports of the mixed quality of the regional divisions' analytical outputs; the division of labour between the recently established Peacebuilding Support Office and the regional divisions; whether Member States were consulted in the assessment of the quality of the work of regional divisions; the lack of geographical diversity in the choice of external analytical and information support utilized by the Department of Political Affairs; and the mandate for OIOS to produce the subject report.

Conclusions and recommendations

387. **The Committee welcomed the findings of the in-depth evaluation of the Department of Political Affairs and encouraged OIOS to continue its evaluation**

of the remaining subprogrammes of the Department to be submitted at its next session, and endorsed the 10 recommendations contained in paragraphs 74 to 83 of the report.

388. **While recognizing the use made by the Department of Political Affairs of academic and non-governmental organizations for information-gathering and analytical tasks, the Committee stressed that it was important for the Department to retain sufficient analytical capability to ensure that issues continued to be viewed from a multilateral perspective.**

5. Triennial review of the in-depth evaluation of the programme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs

389. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-third session on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs (E/AC.51/2006/5).

390. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded, together with the Director of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

391. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea was commended for increasing its capacity and for its increasing use of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). However, concern was expressed over NGOs serving on UN-Oceans task forces, and the section on States' obligations in the report was cited as one example of how NGO input might lead to erroneous statements.

392. It was noted that the Division, since its establishment in 1992, had made a significant contribution in coordinating the international effort on issues related to the oceans and in increasing the United Nations role by way of the Convention. Furthermore, the work of the Division in increasing the number of parties to the Convention was recognized. Taking account of the nature of the work of the Division, the question was raised as to how it proposed to improve its staff capacity and overall efficiency, and how it could be ensured that funds were being targeted towards highest-priority issues and that the Division had sufficient resources and staff capacity to do so.

393. With regard to improving staff capacity and efficiency, the Director of the Division explained that it relied on several additional sources, both inside and outside the United Nations, to supplement its current capacity through knowledge-sharing. He added that the Division was charged with implementing agreements, a mandate that required expertise in several areas in which it did not currently have specialized divisions. In that regard, he cited the recent example of two officers at the General Service level who had acquired the technical expertise in that manner on issues related to the continental shelf. The Division was also eliciting expertise from units within the Secretariat that not only had the requisite expertise to fill current knowledge gaps themselves, but also had relationships with outside experts who could further augment the Division's current capacity in relation to the law of the seas and other areas. The Director reported that the Division had requested more

resources to assist it in implementing the tasks outlined in the report, with specific line items surrounding technical requirements, staffing and other matters. That request, he noted, would likely be considered by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.

Conclusions and recommendations

394. **The Committee concluded that the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea had implemented all the recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-third session.**

III. Coordination questions

A. Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

395. At its 4th meeting, on 15 August 2006, the Committee considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2005-2006 (E/2006/66).

396. The Director of the CEB secretariat introduced the report and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

397. Delegates welcomed the report as both important and useful and expressed satisfaction with its comprehensive nature, in particular the way in which it clearly highlighted the work and the progress achieved in inter-agency cooperation during 2005/06. Support was also voiced for CEB, its vital role of coordinating and enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations system and the central role it played, both from the perspective of sharing experiences among United Nations organizations and in terms of developing a coordinating strategy and policy aimed at enhancing the output of the organizations of the United Nations system.

398. The role of CEB in promoting a culture of cooperation among United Nations-system organizations and in providing cohesion to the system was supported. CEB was found to be uniquely placed to help the United Nations system move forward on some of the changes and reforms that the Member States had been discussing over the past years.

399. The achievements of CEB with regard to priority issues, such as coherence at the country level, gender mainstreaming, knowledge management and support for NEPAD, were noted. The coordination and joint participation of United Nations-system organizations in the areas of safety and security of United Nations personnel, strengthening transparency and accountability and introducing information and communication technologies in the area of management and operational activities were also found to be important. With regard to the latter, it was observed that information and communication technology played a critical role in almost every operational and management aspect of the United Nations system and could be a powerful tool to reduce duplication and allow the organizations of the United Nations system to interact more easily.

400. Delegates noted the efforts of CEB to implement the decisions set out in the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the relevance of attention to the issues of hunger, employment and migration for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Support was also expressed for the activities developed by the Human Resources Network, in relation to mobility and hardship allowances and the harmonization of remuneration packages. The harmonization of the various United Nations HIV workplace initiatives into one common United Nations programme was also welcomed. The principle that collaboration in the area of management must be strengthened was also supported.

401. CEB interaction with the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence, in particular in the area of financial issues, given the continuing efforts of CEB towards providing full transparency in questions relating to extrabudgetary resources, was noted. The view was expressed that CEB should strive to further improve its working methods in the area.

402. CEB was requested to elaborate on developments in the area of sharing of experiences in future annual overview reports, specifically focusing on knowledge management and poverty, although members noted that some activities to share best practices appeared more ad hoc and passive, and that CEB should adopt a more active model in that regard. As to enhancing human resources management and inter-agency collaboration on information and communication technology, delegates expressed the view that they would count on CEB to lead those initiatives. Finally, with regard to enhancing financial resources management, the opinion was expressed that CEB should strive to make further progress towards full transparency on extrabudgetary resources.

403. During the discussions, suggestions for consideration by CEB included the following:

(a) In the area of governance and accountability, members fully supported the initiative to create in the United Nations a more effective system of governance and suggested a new code of conduct for business purposes that included measures to strengthen the capacities of organizations to detect and prevent fraud and corruption;

(b) In the area of finance and budget, the Committee urged CEB and its relevant structures to expand coordination through further exchanges of experience and best practices;

(c) In the area of gender equality and empowerment of women, members noted with concern an apparent lack of progress and suggested that CEB could provide specific proposals in that regard in the future;

(d) In the area of knowledge management and knowledge-sharing, members were of the view that CEB should continue to have an important role to play in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Office of Internal Oversight Services report on the thematic evaluation of "knowledge management networks in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration" (E/AC.51/2006/2);

(e) Members pointed out that it was important that future CEB reports reflect the practical results of its reform and its influence on the different areas of inter-

agency coordination, and that they provide more specific information on the problems encountered in its coordination efforts and how they were resolved.

Conclusions and recommendations

404. **The Committee took note of the annual overview report of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2005/06, subject to the observations set out below.**

405. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly welcome the inclusion of information on progress being achieved and problems being encountered by the relevant inter-agency mechanisms in the fight against hunger and poverty.**

406. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request CEB to continue to monitor the effective collaboration of system-wide efforts against hunger and poverty.**

407. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly express regret that the international response to reducing undernutrition had generally been insufficient and that there had been a decline of over 50 per cent in the share of agricultural official development assistance during the past decade, and that the Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of CEB, to take the necessary actions to address that situation.**

408. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request CEB to report in its annual reports on the progress being achieved regarding the main difficulties encountered by the organizations of the system in addressing the issue of malnutrition and hunger (see E/2006/66, para. 34).**

409. **The Committee highlighted the high priority that CEB continued to attach to ensuring the effectiveness and coordination of the United Nations system support for Africa and NEPAD and requested CEB to ensure that support for the New Partnership remained a priority for the United Nations system. It encouraged CEB member organizations to further align their priorities with those of the New Partnership and to scale up their efforts in support of it.**

B. New Partnership for Africa's Development and report of the Joint Inspection Unit

410. At its 4th and 6th meetings, on 15 and 16 August 2006, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2006/6). In conjunction with that report, the Committee also considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on further measures to strengthen United Nations system support to NEPAD (A/61/69) and the comments thereon of the Secretary-General and CEB (A/61/69/Add.1).

411. The Director of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report of the Secretary-General and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report. An inspector introduced the report of the Joint Inspection Unit and responded to questions raised. The Director of the CEB

secretariat introduced the report containing the comments of the Secretary-General and CEB thereon.

Discussion

412. Appreciation was expressed for the useful and informative nature of the two reports. Regarding the report of the Secretary-General, some delegations noted that impact analysis and assessment of United Nations assistance to NEPAD as well as monitoring of the commitments of the international community should be incorporated into future reports. Another delegation noted with surprise that UNICEF was not included in the report, and recommended that, in view of its important work in Africa, future reports should include it.

413. With regard to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, clarification was provided as to its nature. The inspector confirmed that the report was not about NEPAD per se, but about the coordinating role of ECA, including the institutional and coordination arrangements of United Nations agencies working in Africa.

414. Strong statements of support for NEPAD were made, and the important role of United Nations system agencies in the implementation of NEPAD was highlighted. The importance of effective institutional architecture and better coordination among agencies for United Nations system support for Africa was particularly emphasized.

415. Support was expressed for the role of the Office of the Special Adviser as the focal point for United Nations support for NEPAD at the global level, while the key role of ECA in coordinating the contributions of United Nations agencies to NEPAD implementation at the regional and subregional levels was acknowledged. In particular, a number of delegations emphasized that the role of ECA as strategic coordinator should be strengthened.

416. The view was expressed that NEPAD provided good opportunities for agencies to work together, and that collaboration and coordination of agencies would need to be improved in the future. In addition, a delegation expressed its hope that NEPAD-related coordination could result in greater cooperation among United Nations agencies than was currently the case.

417. Concern was voiced as to the significant financial implications of some recommendations made in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit. Concern was also voiced over the possible loss of operational capacity by United Nations agencies, which might second their staff to ECA.

418. The Committee's central role in matters of programming and coordinating was highlighted, including, in particular, its role in helping implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit.

Conclusions and recommendations

419. **The Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2006/6) and noted the key achievements of the United Nations system aimed at fulfilling its role in the implementation of NEPAD.**

420. **The Committee recognized that the United Nations system continued to make a concrete contribution to the objectives of NEPAD, through assistance to African countries, the African Union and African subregional organizations.**

421. The Committee reiterated the importance of Africa's ownership and leadership of NEPAD, which were regarded as key factors to progress in its implementation.

422. The Committee endorsed the recommendations contained in paragraphs 79 to 81 of the report. It urged the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa to take note of the reports of OIOS in respect of knowledge-sharing and to participate in the follow-up processes.

423. The Committee welcomed the support provided by United Nations bodies, funds and agencies for NEPAD and reiterated the central and critical roles of CEB and the Office of the Special Adviser for the advocacy and fostering of international support for NEPAD at the global level. In that regard, the Committee stressed the vital role of the Office of the Special Adviser in the activities of the advocacy and communications cluster.

424. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser in order to accelerate the implementation of NEPAD and effectively fulfil its mandate to coordinate resource and capacity mobilization, institutional support and advocacy to enhance a coordinated and integrated response to the challenges facing Africa.

425. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Office of the Special Adviser to provide leadership and coordinated support to African countries, ECA and the African Union.

426. The Committee noted with concern that several challenges and constraints, mainly concerning issues of coordination, collaboration and funding, continued to hinder the full effectiveness of the United Nations system in the implementation of NEPAD, and urged the various components of the United Nations system to make greater efforts to work together to ensure the proper utilization of talents and resources. The Committee encouraged the practical implementation of inter-agency coordination, regular and periodic dialogue with ECA, the African Union and the NEPAD secretariat, and inter-agency joint planning.

427. The Committee stressed that the United Nations system constituted a crucial pillar in the advocacy for and delivery of international support to Africa and therefore also needed to monitor international commitments in support of NEPAD to avoid duplication.

428. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly consider recommendations 1 to 10, as contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/61/69).

IV. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate

429. At its 3rd meeting, on 14 August 2006, the Committee considered agenda item 6, entitled "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate"

430. The Committee had before it a compilation of its conclusions and recommendations on the item adopted at its thirty-eighth to forty-fourth sessions, as well as proposals put forward by delegations at its forty-fifth session. The Committee held several rounds of informal consultations and a number of "informal informal" consultations to consider those proposals and others that had been put forward during the current session.

Discussion

431. It was observed that the item on improving the working methods of the Committee was a difficult one. Members had not reached agreement in the past as they had a wide divergence of views on how the work should be improved. The actual problems should first be identified and concrete proposals presented so that the Committee could move forward in an atmosphere of understanding. It was necessary to work on the basis of a frank and open discussion.

432. It was noted that the Committee had considered several proposals in previous sessions and that they could serve as a basis for discussions on the item in the forty-sixth session. It was stressed that the Committee was working hard on the formulation of recommendations and that progress had been made during the session.

433. The view was expressed that the General Assembly, notably in its resolutions 58/269, 59/275 and 60/257, had repeatedly asked the Committee to improve its working methods and that the previous years' proposals were well known. The Assembly's mandate to strengthen the Committee, while ensuring that there was no negative impact on its consideration of the strategic framework for the period 2008-2009, should therefore be implemented with urgency.

434. The view was also expressed that the utility of the Committee should be measured as to what it achieved. It should provide clear direction to programme managers and stronger focus on coordination and programme aspects. Its report should be short and focused on strategic guidance to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

435. It was suggested that the improvement in the Committee's working methods had to be practical and realistic, taking into account the budget cycle, and that in budget years, emphasis should be placed on the programme aspect and in non-budget years, on evaluation. There was an opportunity to enhance the effectiveness of the Committee. In that regard, the Committee's role as an important subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council was also noted.

436. The view was expressed that the Committee considered reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services which identified weak areas and proposed measures for improving the Secretariat. Moreover, it considered reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, which also made an important contribution in that regard. In addition, the Committee could play a key role in the review of the inventory of the Organization's mandates to avoid duplication. The suggestion to abolish the Committee should therefore be dismissed and more practical and constructive proposals put forward to make the Committee an effective tool for its members and for the Organization as a whole.

437. Prior to the Committee's consideration of the first agenda item on 21 August, the view was expressed that a respected and long-standing member of the Committee had abruptly withdrawn from the Committee following its forty-fifth session when the Committee had failed in its efforts to improve its effectiveness. It was also noted that two other Committee members had decided to change the nature of their participation in the Committee's forty-sixth session given the Committee's continued inability to reach consensus on recommended improvements to its working methods and procedures which were considered critical for the Committee's future success.

438. Prior to the Committee's consideration of the first agenda item on 29 August, the view was expressed that the fact that the Committee had begun negotiating language for its report without first having reached consensus on improvements to the report's format as well as other measures to make the Committee effective raised doubts about the utility of the Committee.

439. After a full discussion of the agenda item and taking into consideration the various views expressed and proposals put forward by delegations, the Chairperson presented an informal paper, which enjoyed the broad agreement and support of the Committee. The following is the text of the paper:

"Improving the working methods of the Committee on Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate

"1. The Committee reaffirmed its role as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination and resolved to undertake, consistent with its mandate,[3] terms of reference[4] and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[5] improvements in its working methods to enhance the effectiveness of its work.

"2. The Committee re-emphasized the importance of its intergovernmental nature in the discharge of its functions.

"3. The Committee decided to implement the following measures aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee and improving its working methods and procedures.

"4. The Committee called for timely organizational meetings of CPC to be scheduled no later than the beginning of May each year, during which a Bureau for the forthcoming CPC session should be elected. The Committee encouraged member States to provide timely nominations for the Bureau to facilitate the early constitution of a Bureau.

"5. The Committee recommended that the incoming Bureau assume immediate responsibility for the preparation of the forthcoming session it was elected to, which will include the planning of the programme of work for the annual session of CPC and the monitoring of the status of documentation for the session. In the case of the latter, the Secretariat should continuously liaise

[3] See Economic and Social Council resolutions 920 (XXXIV), 1171 (XLI) and 2008 (LX), General Assembly resolutions 31/93 and 58/269 and General Assembly decision 42/450.

[4] Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), annex.

[5] ST/SGB/2000/8 of 19 April 2000.

with the relevant author departments to ensure that documentation is submitted on time.

"6. The Committee re-emphasized the need for the Secretary-General to continue improving the responsibility and accountability systems within the Secretariat and to ensure the timely issuance of documents in accordance with the six-week rule.

"7. The Committee recalled paragraph 9, section III, of resolution 59/265, in which it was decided that the issuance of documents on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority status, and urged the Secretariat to ensure that the issuance of the biennial plan and the proposed strategic framework and the proposed programme budget are accorded priority status, in accordance with the aforementioned paragraph of the resolution.

"8. The Committee recalled the relevant resolutions on the official languages of the United Nations, including General Assembly resolution 59/309 of 22 June 2005 on multilingualism, and emphasized in that respect the need for the Committee for Programme and Coordination to have in due time all the documents in the six official languages.

"9. The Committee decided henceforth to devote a day during the first week of its session to informal briefings for member and observer delegations on technical issues to be addressed by CPC.

"10. The Committee emphasized the need for the presence of senior programme managers to assist it in the deliberations on agenda items pertaining to the areas of their respective responsibilities.

"11. The Committee emphasized the need for interactive discussion with programme managers to focus on the programmatic aspects of existing mandates, but reiterated the need for brief and concise oral presentations of reports by the Secretariat.

"12. The Committee decided to invite those nominated by the Secretary-General to represent him in formal meetings, to focus their formal statements, inter alia, on any significant developments since the report was issued and explanation of any especially complex issues.

"13. The Committee noted that its August session remains unutilized and recommended that the General Assembly suspend the August session for the duration of the budget reform trial period. The Committee looked forward to a final decision on the review of the planning and budgeting process at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly.

"14. The Committee agreed to make a recommendation to the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on the duration of its sessions, including the possibility of reducing the length of its sessions, in the context of the review by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session of the experiences of the trial period of the new planning and budgeting process.

"15. The Committee recommended that triennial reviews, in-depth and thematic evaluation reports should include a section on questions in which intergovernmental guidance and follow-up would be useful.

"16. The Committee recommended further that the section on questions concerning triennial reviews, in-depth and thematic evaluation reports should focus on practical and policy issues, which in the view of OIOS cannot be solved by the Secretariat alone and would require the recommendation or decision by intergovernmental bodies.

"17. The Committee recalled its request to OIOS to conduct thematic and in-depth evaluation reports as an important part of the evaluation work of OIOS and agreed to review at its forty-eighth session the scheduling of these evaluation reports to be considered at its sessions.

"18. The Committee recommended that the programme performance report should continue to include in each section a box with a brief description of challenges, obstacles and unmet goals, so as to facilitate the evaluation of the Committee of issues affecting programmatic performance.

"19. The Committee emphasized that the discussion part of its report should be concise and focused in order to further improve its quality.

"20. The Committee decided further that, in producing its report:

"(a) The inputs for the conclusions and recommendations portion should be submitted by a deadline set by the Bureau. The deadline should be reasonable and allow for members to reflect on the responses received from the Secretariat;

"(b) The draft reports should be circulated at least 24 hours before the informal consultations;

"(c) Delegations should, if needed, attempt to obtain instructions and/or inputs from their experts during the 24-hour period.

"21. The Committee stressed the relevance of article 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council and reaffirmed that in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council, observers may participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to them. The Committee also reaffirmed the responsibility and privileges of its members concerning the decision-making process and the recommendations that they adopt and agreed that observers should not contest the decisions of the Committee when members are in agreement on conclusions and recommendations."

V. Provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Committee

440. The draft provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Committee is set out below. It has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority and in the light of the recommendations adopted by the Committee at its forty-sixth session.

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 54/236)

4. Programme questions:

(a) Programme planning:

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the experiences gained with the changes made in the planning and budgetary process (General Assembly resolution 58/269)

(b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269),

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (in fascicle form)

(c) Evaluations.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs (General Assembly resolution 60/257)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-fourth session on the in-depth evaluation of public administration finance and development (General Assembly resolution 59/275)

5. Coordination questions:

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Board for 2006/07

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (General Assembly resolution 59/275)

6. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.

8. Provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-seventh session.

Annex I

Agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance;
   (b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009;
   (c) Revised estimates relating to the 2005 World Summit Outcome and proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007;
   (d) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
   (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.
5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate.
7. Provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-sixth session.

Annex II

List of documents before the Committee at its forty-sixth session

A/61/6 (Part one)	Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009:
	Part one: Plan outline
	Part two: Biennial programme plan
A/61/6 (Prog. 1)	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management
A/61/6 (Prog. 2)	Political affairs
A/61/6 (Prog. 3)	Disarmament
A/61/6 (Prog. 4)	Peacekeeping operations
A/61/6 (Prog. 5)	Peaceful uses of outer space
A/61/6 (Prog. 6)	Legal affairs
A/61/6 (Prog. 7)	Economic and social affairs
A/61/6 (Prog. 8)	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
A/61/6 (Prog. 9)	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
A/61/6 (Prog. 10)	Trade and development
A/61/6 (Prog. 11)	Environment
A/61/6 (Prog. 12)	Human settlements
A/61/6 (Prog. 13)	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice
A/61/6 (Prog. 14)/Rev.1	Economic and social development in Africa
A/61/6 (Prog. 15)	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/61/6 (Prog. 16)	Economic development in Europe
A/61/6 (Prog. 17)	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/61/6 (Prog. 18)	Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/61/6 (Prog. 19)	Human rights
A/61/6 (Prog. 20)	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees
A/61/6 (Prog. 21)	Palestine refugees

A/61/6 (Prog. 22)	Humanitarian assistance
A/61/6 (Prog. 23)	Public information
A/61/6 (Prog. 24)	Management and support services
A/61/6 (Prog. 25)	Internal oversight
A/61/6 (Prog. 26)	Jointly financed activities
A/61/6 (Prog. 27)	Safety and security
A/61/21/Add.1	Report on the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on Information
A/61/64	Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2004-2005
A/61/69	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Further measures to strengthen United Nations system support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development"
A/61/69/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Further measures to strengthen United Nations system support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development"
A/61/83 and Corr.1	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of the Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives
A/61/125	Proposed revisions to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007
A/61/131	Note by the Secretary-General on the revised estimates relating to the 2005 World Summit Outcome: programme narratives
A/60/537	Report of the Secretary-General on the 2005 World Summit Outcome: revised estimates to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 under sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 16, 23, 28A, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 29 and to the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006
E/2006/66	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2005/06

E/AC.51/2006/1	Annotated provisional agenda of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
E/AC.51/2006/2	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the thematic evaluation of knowledge management networks in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration
E/AC.51/2006/3	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the usefulness of the pilot thematic evaluation
E/AC.51/2006/4 and Add.1	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on an in-depth evaluation of political affairs
E/AC.51/2006/5	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-third session on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on the law of the sea and ocean affairs
E/AC.51/2006/6	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development
E/AC.51/2006/L.1 and Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation
E/AC.51/2006/L.2	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit
E/AC.51/2006/L.3	Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Committee
E/AC.51/2006/L.4 and Add.1-37	Draft report of the Committee on its forty-sixth session
E/AC.51/2006/CRP.1	Note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009: review of part two: biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies
E/AC.51/2006/INF.1	List of delegations

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